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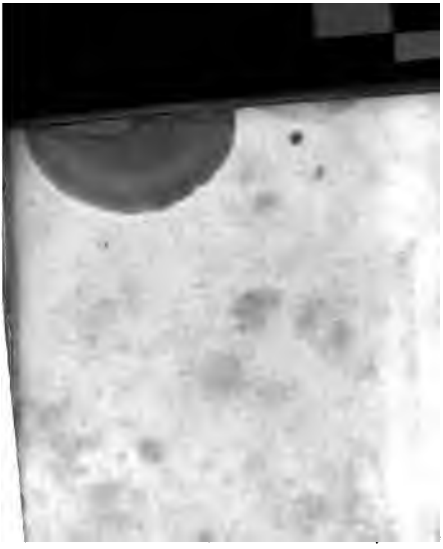

THE LIFE & ESSAYS OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

NEW YORK

Published by Johnstone & Van Norden.

THE

WORKS

OF

DR. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,

CONSISTING OF

ESSAYS,

HUMOROUS, MORAL, AND LITERARY:

WITH

His Life,

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

NEW-YORK:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY W. VAN NORDEN
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1825.

EVERT JANSEN WENDEL
1918

PREFACE

BY THE EDITOR.

biography is a species of history which records the lives and characters of remarkable persons, consequently becomes an interesting subject, and general utility. It would be but fair to assert, almost every civilized nation on the globe has, se period or other, produced distinguished indi- uals in various stations of life.

r. Jefferson, the President of the United States merica, in his "Notes on Virginia," thus speaks swer to the assertion of the Abbé Raynal, that nerica has not yet produced one good poet, one mathematician, one man of genius, in a single or a single science."—"When we shall have exist- l as a nation," says Mr. J. "as long as the Greeks before they produced a Homer, the Romans a il, the French a Racine and Voltaire, the English akespeare and Milton, should this reproach be true, we will inquire fom what unfriendly causes as proceeded, that the other countries of Europe quarters of the earth shall not have mscribed any e in the roll of poets. In war we have produced 'ashington, whose memory will be adored while ty shall have votaries; whose name will triumph time, and will in future ages assume its just on among the most celebrated worthies of the d, when that wretched philosophy shall be for- n which would arrange him among the degene s of nature. In physics, we have produced a mmy, than whom no one of the present age has

st eminent p...
er produced. The Essays of this great
e of the best proofs we can adduce of h
endent abilities; and America claims the
ed FRANKLIN, a man who has not left his e
nd him, and whose Life and Writings are
ct of the following sheets.

To say more in this place of our Author, w
nticipating what is hereafter mentioned:
herefore only be necessary to add, that du
on has been paid in the selection of such of
uctions as may be adapted to general perus

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[redacted]

LIFE

OF

DR. FRANKLIN.

EAR SON,

AVE amused myself with collecting some little
lotes of my family. You may remember the
ries I made, when you were with me in Eng-
among such of my relations as were then liv-
and the journey I undertook for that purpose.
acquainted with the particulars of my parent-
nd life, many of which are unknown to you, I
myself will afford the same pleasure to you as
. I shall relate them upon paper: it will be an
able employment of a week's uninterrupted
e, which I promise myself during my present
ment in the country. There are also other mo-
which induce me to the undertaking. From the
of poverty and obscurity, in which I drew my
reath, and spent my earliest years, I have raised
f to a state of opulence, and to some degree of
ity in the world. A constant good fortune has
led me through every period of life to my pres-
lvanced age; and my descendants may be de-
of learning what were the means of which I
use, and which, thanks to the assisting hand of
dence, have proved so eminently successful.—
may also, should they ever be placed in a si-
situation, derive some advantage from my mar-

hen I reflect, as I frequently do, upon the felicity
enjoyed, I sometimes say to myself, that were
br made true I would engage to run again, from

remembrance more durable, commit them to
ng. By thus employing myself, I shall yield to
nclination, so natural in old men, to talk of
selves and their exploits, and may freely follow
..., without being tiresome to those who, from
ct to my age, might think themselves obliged to
to me; as they will be at liberty to read me o
s they please. In fine—and I may as well avow
ce nobody would believe me were I to deny it—
ll, perhaps, by this employment, gratify my van
Scarcely, indeed, have I ever heard or read th
ductory phrase, "*I may say without vanity*," ha
striking and characteristic instance of vanit
immediately followed. The generality of me
vanity in others, however strongly they may l
ured with it themselves: for myself, I pay obe
e to it wherever I meet with it, persuaded that
dvantageous, as well to the individual whom
ms, as to those who are within the sphere of
ence. Of consequence, it would, in many cas
be wholly absurd, that a man should count l
ity among the other sweets of life, and give than
rovidence for the blessing.
nd here let me with all humility acknowledge th

n to me, as to so many others. My future
nknown but to Him in whose hand is our
d who can make our very afflictions sub-
our benefit.

ny uncles, desirous, like myself, of collect-
ites of our family, gave me some notes,
I have derived many particulars respect-
estors. From these I learn, that they had
e same village (Eaton, in Northampton-
n a freehold of about thirty acres, for the
east of three hundred years. How long
sided there, prior to that period, my uncle
nable to discover; probably ever since the
of surnames, when they took the appella-
nklin, which had formerly been the name
ular order of individuals.*

ty estate would not have sufficed for their
, had they not added the trade of black-

---

roof that Franklin was anciently the common
order or rank in England, see Judge Fortesque,
legum Angliæ, written about the year 1412, in
e following passage, to show that good juries
be formed in any part of Eng.and:
iam illa, ita respersa refertaque est *possessoribus*
agrorum, quod in ea villula tam parva reperiri
in qua non est *miles, armiger*, vel pater-familias,
n *franklin* vulgaritur nuncupatur, magnis ditatus
us, nec non libere tenentes et alii *valeti* plurimi,
niis sufficientes, ad faciendum juratam, in forma

ir, the same country is so filled and replenished
meane, that therein so small a thorpe cannot be
in dwelleth not a knight, an esquire, or such a
as is there commonly called a *franklin*, en-
great possessions; and also other freeholders and
n, able for their livelihood to make a jury in
entioned." *Old Translation.*

n, calls his country-gentleman a *franklin*; and,
ing his good housekeeping, thus characterizes

orthy franklin bore a purse of silk
his girdle, white as morning milk;
of the shire, first justice at th' assize,
the poor, the doubtful to advise.
mployments, generous, just, he prov'd,
r'd *for courtesy*, by all belov'd.

hat I was the youngest son ...
e family, counting five generations. My gra
er, Thomas, was born in 1598, lived at Eaton
as too old to continue his trade, when he reti
anbury, in Oxfordshire, where his son John, w
a dier, resided, and with whom my father w
renticed. He died, and was buried there:
his monument in 1758. His eldest son livec
family house at Eaton, which he bequeathed, w
land belonging to it, to his only daughter; w
concert with her husband, Mr. Fisher, of Well
ough, afterwards sold it to Mr. Estead, the pre
prietor.

My grandfather had four surviving sons, Thor
nn, Benjamin, and Josias. I shall give you
rticulars of them as my memory will furnish,
ving my papers here, in which you will find a
nute account, if they are not lost during my
nce.

Thomas had learned the trade of a blacks
ider his father; but, possessing a good natural
erstanding, he improved it by study, at the sol
on of a gentleman of the name of Palmer, who
that time the principal inhabitant of the village
he encouraged, in like manner, all my unc
thus rendered

n. The recital that was made us of his life and
racter, by some aged persons of the village, struck
, I remember, as extraordinary, from its analogy
what you knew of myself. "Had he died," said
, "just four years later, one might have supposed
ansmigration of souls."
ohn, to the best of my belief, was brought up to
trade of a wool-dier.
enjamin served his apprenticeship in London to
lk-dier. He was an industrious man: I remem-
him well; for, while I was a child, he joined my
ier at Boston, and lived for some years in the house
h us. A particular affection had always subsisted
ween my father and him, and I was his god-son.
arrived to a great age. He left behind him two
rto volumes of poems in manuscript, consisting of
e fugitive pieces addressed to his friends. He had
ented a short-hand, which he taught me, but, hav-
never made use of it, I have now forgotten it.
was a man of piety, and a constant attendant on
best preachers, whose sermons he took a pleasure
writing down according to the expeditory method
had devised. Many volumes were thus collected
him. He was also extremely fond of politics; too
ch so, perhaps, for his situation. I lately found
London a collection which he had made of all the
ncipal pamphlets relative to public affairs, from
year 1641 to 1717. Many volumes are wanting,
ppears by the series of numbers, but there still
ain eight in folio, and twenty-four in quarto and
ivo. The collection had fallen into the hands of
cond-hand bookseller, who, knowing me by hav-
sold me some books, brought it to me. My uncle,
ems, had left it behind on his departure for Ameri-
about fifty years ago. I found various notes of
writing in the margins. His grandson, Samuel, is
living at Boston.
ur humble family had early embraced the Refor-
ion. They remained faithfully attached during
reign of Queen Mary, when they were in danger
eing molested on account of their zeal against po-
y. They had an English Bible, and, to conceal
e more securely, they conceived the project of

fore. I had this anecdote from my uncle Be

whole family preserved its attachment to t
of England till towards the close of the rei
les II. when certain ministers, who had be
l as nonconformists, having held conventicl
hamptonshire, they were joined by Benjam
ias, who adhered to them ever after. The re
family continued in the episcopal church.
ather, Josias, married early in life. He wer
s wife and three children, to New-Englan
he year 1682. Conventicles being at that tin
ted by law, and frequently disturbed, son
rable persons of his acquaintance determin
America, where they hoped to enjoy the fr
of their religion, and my father was prevail
company them.
ather had also, by the same wife, four childre
America, and ten others by a second wif
in all seventeen. I remember to have see
seated together at his table, who all arrive
of maturity, and were married. I was th
the sons, and the youngest child, exceptin
ghters. I was born at Boston, in New-En

s in familiar verse, agreeably to the taste of the and the country. The author addresses himself governors for the time being, speaks for liberty of ience, and in favour of the anabaptists, quakers, other sectaries, who had suffered persecution. is persecution he attributes the wars with the s, and other calamities which afflicted the coun- egarding them as the judgments of God in pun- nt of so odious an offence, and he exhorts the nment to the repeal of laws so contrary to ty. The poem appeared to be written with a y freedom and a pleasing simplicity. I recollect ix concluding lines, though I have forgotten the of words of the two first; the sense of which that his censures were dictated by benevolence, hat, of consequence, he wished to be known as uthor; because, said he, I hate from my very lissimulation.

From Sherburn,* where I dwell,
I therefore put my name,
Your friend, who means you well,
PETER FOLGER.

brothers were all put apprentices to different s. With respect to myself, I was sent, at the f eight years, to a grammar-school. My father ied me for the church, and already regarded the chaplain of my family. The promptitude which, from my infancy, I had learned to read, do not remember to have been ever without this rement, and the encouragement of his friends, assured him that I should one day certainly be- a man of letters, confirmed him in this design. uncle Benjamin approved also of the scheme, and ised to give me all his volumes of sermons, writ- s I have said, in the short-hand of his inven- if I would take the pains to learn it.
emained, however, scarcely a year at the gram- school, although, in this short interval, I had risen the middle to the head of my class, from thence

* *Town in the island of Nantucket.*

; took me from the [illegible]
school for writing and arithmetic, kept by a
:ge Brownwell, who was a skilful master,
eeded very well in his profession by emplo
le means only, and such as were calculate
ıurage his scholars. Under him, I soon acq
:xcellent hand; but I failed in arithmetic,
.e therein no sort of progress.
t ten years of age, I was called home to assis
er in his occupation, which was that of soap-b
tallow-chandler; a business to which he
ed no apprenticeship, but which he embrace
ırrival in New England, because he found his
: of dier, in too little request to enable hi
ntain his family. I was accordingly employ
ing the wicks, filling the moulds, taking ca
shop, carrying messages, &c.
'his business displeased me, and I felt a s
lination for a sea life; but my father set his
inst it. The vicinity of the water, however,
frequent opportunities of venturing myself
on and within it, and soon acquired the a
imming and of managing a boat. When em
with other children, the helm was common
ted to me, particularly on difficult occasions:

perfect quagmire. My proposal was to erect a wharf that should afford us firm footing; and I pointed out to my companions a large heap of stones, intended for the building a new house near the marsh, and which were well adapted for our purpose. Accordingly, when the workmen retired in the evening, I assembled a number of my play-fellows, and by labouring diligently, like ants, sometimes four of us uniting our strength to carry a single stone, we removed them all, and constructed our little quay. The workmen were surprised the next morning at not finding their stones, which had been conveyed to our wharf. Inquiries were made respecting the authors of this conveyance; we were discovered; complaints were exhibited against us; and many of us underwent correction on the part of our parents; and though I strenuously defended the utility of the work, my father at length convinced me, that nothing which was not strictly honest could be useful.

It will not, perhaps, be uninteresting to you to know what sort of a man my father was. He had an excellent constitution, was of a middle size, but well made and strong, and extremely active in whatever he undertook. He designed with a degree of neatness, and knew a little of music. His voice was sonorous and agreeable; so that when he sang a psalm or hymn, with the accompaniment of his violin, as was his frequent practice in an evening, when the labours of the day were finished, it was truly delightful to hear him. He was versed also in mechanics, and could, upon occasion, use the tools of a variety of trades. But his greatest excellence was a sound understanding and solid judgment, in matters of prudence, both in public and private life. In the former, indeed, he never engaged, because his numerous family, and the mediocrity of his fortune, kept him unremittingly employed in the duties of his profession. But I well remember, that the leading men of the place used frequently to come and ask his advice respecting the affairs of the town, or of the church to which he belonged, and that they paid much deference to his opinion. Individuals were also in th

the conduct of life. He never talked of
which appeared upon the table, never
whether they were well or ill-dressed, of
bad flavour, high-seasoned or otherwise,
or inferior to this or that dish of a sim
Thus accustomed, from my infancy, to the
attention as to these objects, I have been pe
gardless of what kind of food was before i
pay so little attention to it even now, that i
a hard matter for me to recollect, a few ho
had dined, of what my dinner had consiste
travelling, I have particularly experienced t
tage of this habit; for it has often happene
be in company with persons, who, havir
delicate, because a more exercised taste, h
ed in many cases considerable inconvenienc
as to myself, I have had nothing to desire.

My mother was likewise possessed of ar
constitution. She suckled all her ten child
never heard either her or my father compl
other disorder than that of which they die
ther at the age of eighty-seven, and my
eighty-five. They are buried together a
where, a few years ago, I placed a marble
grave, with this inscription:

' children. Let this example, reader, encourage thee
' diligently to discharge the duties of thy calling, and
' to rely on the support of Divine Providence.

"He was pious and prudent,
"She discreet and virtuous.
'Their youngest son, from a sentiment of filial duty,
"consecrates this stone to
"their memory."

I perceive, by my rambling digressions, that I am rowing old. But we do not dress for a private com- pany as for a formal ball. This deserves, perhaps, be name of negligence.

To return. I thus continued employed in my fa- her's trade for the space of two years; that is to say, ill I arrived at twelve years of age. About this ime my brother John, who had served his appren- iceship in London, having quitted my father, and eing married and settled in business on his own ccount at Rhode Island, I was destined, to all ap- earance, to supply his place, and be a candle-maker ll my life; but my dislike of this occupation con- inuing, my father was apprehensive, that, if a more greeable one were not offered me, I might play the ruant and escape to sea; as, to his extreme mortifi- ation, my brother Josias had done. He therefore ook me sometimes to see masons, coopers, braziers, oiners, and other mechanics, employed at their work; n order to discover the bent of my inclination, and ix it, if he could, upon some occupation that might etain me on shore. I have since, in consequence of hese visits, derived no small pleasure from seeing kilful workmen handle their tools, and it has proved f considerable benefit, to have acquired thereby ufficient knowledge to be able to make little things or myself, when I have had no mechanic at hand, nd to construct small machines for my experiments, hile the idea I have conceived has been fresh and trongly impressed on my imagination.

My father at length decided that I should be a cut- er, and I was placed for some days upon trial with *my cousin Samuel*, son of my uncle Benjamin, who

rocure. I was par[illegible]
f voyages. My first acquisition was [illegible]
lection in small separate volumes. These
ds sold in order to buy a historical collectio
rtion, which consisted of small cheap volumes
ng in all to about forty or fifty. My father'
rary was principally made up of books o
l and polemical theology. I read the great
t of them. I have since often regretted, tha
e when I had so great a thirst for knowledge
ligible books had not fallen into my hands, a
then a point decided that I should not be edu
for the church. There was also among my f
books, Plutarch's Lives, in which I read co
ly, and I still regard as advantageously e
d the time I devoted to them. I found besid
rk of De Foe's, entitled an Essay on Projec
which, perhaps, I derived impressions that h
influenced some of the principal events of

y inclination for books at last determined my
to make me a printer, though he had alrea
in that profession. My brother had retu
England in 1717, with a press and types, i
printing-house at Boston.
that of m

brother. I had now an opportunity of procuring better books. The acquaintance I necessarily formed with booksellers' apprentices, enabled me to borrow a volume now and then, which I never failed to return punctually and without injury. How often has it happened to me to pass the greater part of the night in reading by my bed-side, when the book had been lent me in the evening, and was to be returned the next morning, lest it might be missed or wanted.

At length Mr. Matthew Adams, an ingenious tradesman, who had a handsome collection of books, and who frequented our printing-house, took notice of me. He invited me to see his library, and had the goodness to lend me any books I was desirous of reading. I then took a strange fancy for poetry, and composed several little pieces. My brother, thinking he might find his account in it, encouraged me, and engaged me to write two ballads. One, called the Light-house Tragedy, contained an account of the shipwreck of Captain Worthilake and his two daughters; the other was a sailor's song on the capture of the noted pirate called *Teach*, or *Black-beard*. They were wretched verses in point of style, mere blindmen's ditties. When printed, he despatched me about town to sell them. The first had a prodigious run, because the event was recent, and had made a great noise.

My vanity was flattered by this success; but my father checked my exultation, by ridiculing my productions, and telling me that versifiers were always poor. I thus escaped the misfortune of being a very wretched poet. But as the faculty of writing prose has been of great service to me in the course of my life, and principally contributed to my advancement, I shall relate by what means, situated as I was, I acquired the small skill I may possess in that way.

There was in the town another young man, a great lover of books, of the name of John Collins, with whom I was intimately connected. We frequently engaged in dispute, and were indeed so fond of argumentation, that nothing was so agreeable to us as a war of words. This contentious temper, I would observe by the by, is in danger of becoming a very bad habit, and frequently renders a man's company in

ip is indispensa...
ading, while I lived with my fa...
ious controversy. I have since remarked, t
f sense seldom fall into this error; lawyers,
f universitie, and persons of every professi
cated at Edinburgh, excepted.

Collins and I fell one day into an argume
tive to the education of women; namely, wh
was proper to instruct them in the scienc
whether they were competent to the study.
supported the negative, and affirmed that
was beyond their capacity. I maintained th
site opinion, a little perhaps for the pleasur
puting. He was naturally more eloquent
words flowed copiously from his lips; and fi
I thought myself vanquished, more by his
than by the force of his arguments. We
without coming to an agreement upon this
as we were not to see each other again for
I committed my thoughts to paper, made a
and sent it to him. He answered, and
Three or four letters had been written by
my father chanced to light upon my pape
them. Without entering into the merits o
...ced the opportunity of speaking
He observed, th

to imitate it. With this view I selected some of the papers, made short summaries of the sense of each period, and put them for a few days aside. I then, without looking at the book, endeavoured to restore the essays to their due form, and to express each thought at length, as it was in the original, employing the most appropriate words that occurred to my mind. I afterwards compared my Spectator with the original; I perceived some faults, which I corrected but I found that I wanted a fund of words, if I may so express myself, and a facility of recollecting and employing them, which I thought I should by that time have acquired, had I continued to make verses. The continual need of words of the same meaning, but of different lengths for the measure, or of different sounds for the rhyme, would have obliged me to seek for a variety of synonymes, and have rendered me master of them. From this belief, I took some of the tales of the Spectator and turned them into verse; and, after a time, when I had sufficiently forgotten them, I again converted them into prose.

Sometimes also I mingled all my summaries together; and, a few weeks after, endeavoured to arrange them in the best order, before I attempted to form the periods and complete the essays. This I did with a view of acquiring method in the arrangement of my thoughts. On comparing, afterwards, my performance with the original, many faults were apparent, which I corrected; but I had sometimes the satisfaction to think, that, in certain particulars of little importance, I had been fortunate enough to improve the order of thought or the style; and this encouraged me to hope that I should succeed, in time, in writing decently in the English language, which was one of the great objects of my ambition.

The time which I devoted to these exercises, and to reading, was the evening after my day's labour was finished, the morning before it began, and Sundays when I could escape attending Divine service. While I lived with my father, he had insisted on my punctual attendance on public worship, and I still indeed considered it as a duty, but a duty which I thought I had no time to practise.

at animal food w...
an scolded for my singularity. ...
de in which Tryon prepared some of his
rticularly how to boil potatoes and rice, a
asty puddings. I then said to my brothe
e would allow me per week half what he
ry board, I would undertake to maintain
he offer was instantly embraced, and I soo
hat of what he gave me I was able to sa
This was a new fund for the purchase of
and other advantages resulted to me from t
When my brother and his workmen left the
house to go to dinner, I remained behind,
patching my frugal meal, which frequently
of a biscuit only, or a slice of bread and a
raisins, or a bun from the pastry-cook's, wit
of water, I had the rest of the time, till th
for study; and my progress therein was pr
to that clearness of ideas, and quickness
tion, which are the fruit of temperance in
drinking.

It was about this period that, having c
put to the blush for my ignorance in the a
lation, which I had twice failed to lea
I took Cocker's Treatise of Ari
with the utmost

ble Things of Socrates, in which are various examples of the same method. Charmed to a degree of enthusiasm with this mode of disputing, I adopted it, and renouncing blunt contradiction, and direct and positive argument, I assumed the character of a humble questioner. The perusal of Shaftsbury and Collins had made me a sceptic: and, being previously so as to many doctrines of Christianity, I found Socrates' method to be both the safest for myself, as well as the most embarrassing to those against whom I employed it. It soon afforded me singular pleasure; I incessantly practised it; and became very adroit in obtaining, even from persons of superior understanding, concessions of which they did not foresee the consequence. Thus I involved them in difficulties from which they were unable to extricate themselves, and sometimes obtained victories, which neither my cause nor my arguments merited.

This method I continued to employ for some years: but I afterwards abandoned it by degrees, retaining only the habit of expressing myself with modest diffidence, and never making use, when I advanced any proposition which might be controverted, of the words *certainly*, *undoubtedly*, or any others which might give the appearance of being obstinately attached to my opinion. I rather said, I imagine, I suppose, or it appears to me, that such a thing is so or so, for such and such reasons; or it is so, if I am not mistaken. This habit has, I think, been of considerable advantage to me, when I have had occasion to impress my opinion on the minds of others, and persuade them to the adoption of the measures I have suggested. And since the chief ends of conversation are, to inform or to be informed, to please or to persuade, I could wish that intelligent and well-meaning men would not themselves diminish the power they possess of being useful, by a positive and presumptuous manner of expressing themselves, which scarcely ever fails to disgust the hearer, and is only calculated to excite opposition, and defeat every purpose for which the faculty of speech has been bestowed on man. In short, if you wish to inform, a positive and dogmatical manner of advancing your opinion may provoke con-

ws. Pope judiciously observes,

> Men must be taught as if you taught them not,
> And things unknown proposed as things forgot.

ıd in the same poem he afterwards advises

> To speak, though sure, with seeming diffidence.

e might have added to these lines, one tha
ıupled elsewhere, in my opinion, with less pr
is thus:

> For want of modesty is want of sense.

f you ask why I say with *less propriety*, I n
ou the two lines together:

> Immodest words admit of *no defence*,
> For want of decency is want of sense.

Now, want of sense, when a man has the m
:o be so circumstanced, is it not a kind of e
want of modesty? And would not the ve
been more accurate, if they had been co

pearance in America, and was entitled the "New England Courant." The only one that existed before was the "Boston News Letter." Some of his friends, I remember, would have dissuaded him from this undertaking, as a thing that was not likely to succeed: a single newspaper being, in their opinion, sufficient for all America. At present, however, in 1771, there are no less than twenty-five. But he carried his project into execution, and I was employed in distributing the copies to his customers, after having assisted in composing and working them off.

Among his friends he had a number of literary characters, who, as an amusement, wrote short essays for the paper, which gave it reputation, and increased the sale. These gentlemen frequently came to our house. I heard the conversation that passed, and the accounts they gave of the favourable reception of their writings with the public. I was tempted to try my hand among them; but, being still a child as it were, I was fearful that my brother might be unwilling to print in his paper any performance of which he should know me to be the author. I therefore contrived to disguise my hand, and having written an anonymous piece, I placed it at night under the door of the printing-house, where it was found the next morning. My brother communicated it to his friends, when they came as usual to see him, who read it, commented upon it within my hearing, and I had the exquisite pleasure to find that it met with their approbation, and that in their various conjectures they made respecting the author, no one was mentioned who did not enjoy a high reputation in the country for talents and genius. I now supposed myself fortunate in my judges, and began to suspect that they were not such excellent writers as I had hitherto supposed them. Be this as it may, encouraged by this little adventure, I wrote and sent to press, in the same way, many other pieces, which were equally approved: keeping the secret till my slender stock of information and knowledge for such performances was pretty completely exhausted, when I made myself known.

My brother, upon this discovery, began to entertain a little more respect for me; but he still regarded him-

as my favour. But my brother w
often had recourse to blows, a cir
took in very ill part. This seve
treatment contributed, I believe,
mind that aversion to arbitrary pow
my whole life, I have ever preserve
ship became insupportable to me,
sighed for an opportunity of shorte
length unexpectedly offered.

An article inserted in our paper,
cal subject which I have now forg
to the Assembly. My brother was t
censured, and ordered into confinen
because, I presume, he would not di
I was also taken up, and examined
cil; but, though I gave them no
contented themselves with reprima
dismissing me; considering me prob
quality of apprentice, to keep my m

The imprisonment of my brother
entment, notwithstanding our privat
ing its continuance, the manageme
was entrusted to me, and I was bold
some pasquinades against the govern
ly pleased my brother

ion Some proposed to evade the order, by ch
; the title of the paper: but my brother foresein
venience that would result from this step, thou
better that it should in future be printed in
me of Benjamin Franklin; and, to avoid the c
e of the Assembly, who might charge him w
l printing the paper himself, under the name of i
prentice, it was resolved that my old indentur
uld be given up to me, with a full and entire di
ge written on the back, in order to be produce
n an emergency: but that, to secure to my broth
benefit of my service, I should sign a new contract
ich should be kept secret during the remainder o
term. This was a very shallow arrangement. I
s, however, carried into immediate execution, and
paper continued, in consequence, to make its ap-
rance for some months in my name. At length a
w difference arising between my brother and me,
entured to take advantage of my liberty, presum-
that he would not dare to produce the new con-
t. It was undoubtedly dishonourable to avail
elf of this circumstance, and I reckon this action
me of the first errors of my life; but I was little
ble of estimating it at its true value, embittered
y mind had been by the recollection of the blows
received. Exclusive of his passionate treatment
, my brother was by no means a man of an ill
r, and perhaps my manners had too much im-
ence not to afford it a very natural pretext.
en he knew that it was my determination to quit
e wished to prevent my finding employment
ere. He went to all the printing-houses in the
nd prejudiced the masters against me; who
ngly refused to employ me. The idea then
d itself to me of going to New-York, the near
in which there was a printing-office. Farther
confirmed me in the design of leaving Bos-
re I had already rendered myself an object of
to the governing party. It was probable,
arbitary proceedings of the Assembly in the
ny brother, that, by remaining, I should soon
exposed to difficulties, which I had the
son to apprehend, as, from my indiscreet

undertook to [illegible]
sage with a captain of a New-[illegible]
he represented me as a young man of his
ance, who had an affair with a girl of bad
whose parents wished to compel me to man
of consequence I could neither make my ap
nor go off publicly. I sold part of my boo
cure a small sum of money, and went pr
board the sloop. By favour of a good win
myself in three days at New-York, nearly t
dred miles from my home, at the age only
teen years, without knowing an individu
place, and with very little money in my po

The inclination I had felt for a sea-farin
entirely subsided, or I should now have b
gratify it; but, having another trade, and be
self to be a tolerable workman, I hesitated
my services to the old Mr. William Bradfo
been the first printer in Pennsylvania, but
the province on account of a quarrel
Keith, the governor. He could not give
ment himself, having little to do, and alre
persons as he wanted; but he told me
printer at Philadelphia, had lately lost
workman, Aquila Rose, who was dead.
he believed that he

the fore-top, saved him, and drew him on board. This immersion sobered him a little, so that he fell asleep, after having taken from his pocket a volume which he requested me to dry. This volume I found to be my old favourite work, Bunyan's Pilgrim, in Dutch, a beautiful impression on fine paper, with copper-plate engravings; a dress in which I had never seen it in its original language. I have since learned that it has been translated into almost all the languages of Europe, and, next to the Bible, I am persuaded it is one of the books that has had the greatest spread. Honest John is the first, that I know of, who has mixed narrative and dialogue together; a mode of writing very engaging to the reader, who in the most interesting passages finds himself admitted, as it were, into the company, and present at the conversation. De Foe has imitated it with success in his Robinson Crusoe, his Moll Flanders, and other works; as also Richardson in his Pamela, &c.

In approaching the island, we found that we had made a part of the coast where it was not possible to land, on account of the strong breakers produced by the rocky shore. We cast anchor and veered the cable towards the shore. Some men who stood upon the brink, halloed to us, while we did the same on our part; but the wind was so high, and the waves so noisy, that we could neither of us hear each other. There were some canoes upon the bank, and we called out to them, and made signs to prevail on them to come and take us up; but either they did not understand us, or they deemed our request impracticable, and withdrew. Night came on, and nothing remained for us but to wait quietly the subsiding of the wind; till when, we determined, that is, the pilot and I, to sleep if possible. For that purpose we went below the hatches along with the Dutchman, who was drenched with water. The sea broke over the boat, and reached us in our retreat, so that we were presently as completely drenched as he.

We had very little repose during the whole night; but the wind abating the next day, we succeeded in reaching Amboy before it was dark, after having passed *thirty hours without* provisions, and with no other

miles to walk, in order to reach Burli
was told I should find passage-boats t
vey me to Philadelphia. It rained l
day, so that I was wet to the skin. I
fatigued about noon, I stopped at a ps
I passed the rest of the day and the w
ginning to regret that I had quitted my
besides so wretched a figure, that I wa
be some runaway servant. This I dis
questions that were asked me; and I
every moment in danger of being tak
The next day, however, I continued m
arrived in the evening at an inn, eigh
from Burlington, that was kept by one

This man entered into conversation
I took some refreshment, and perceivi
read a little, he expressed towards m
interest and friendship. Our acquaint
during the remainder of his life. I belie
been what is called an itinerant doctor
no town in England, or indeed in Euro
could not give a particular account. I
deficient in understanding or literature
sad infidel; and, some years after, w

town, who had sold me some gingerbread to eat on my passage, and I asked her advice. She invited me to take up my abode with her till an opportunity offered for me to embark. Fatigued with having travelled so far on foot, I accepted her invitation. When she understood that I was a printer, she would have persuaded me to stay at Burlington, and set up my trade; but she was little aware of the capital that would be necessary for such a purpose! I was treated while at her house with true hospitality. She gave me, with the utmost good-will, a dinner of beef-steaks, and would accept of nothing in return but a pint of ale.

Here I imagined myself to be fixed till the Tuesday in the ensuing week; but, walking out in the evening by the river side, I saw a boat with a number of persons in it approach. It was going to Philadelphia, and the company took me in. As there was no wind, we could only make way with our oars. About midnight, not perceiving the town, some of the company were of opinion that we must have passed it, and were unwilling to row any farther; the rest not knowing where we were, it was resolved that we should stop. We drew towards the shore, entered a creek, and landed near some old palisades, which served us for firewood, it being a cold night in October. Here we staid till day, when one of the company found the place in which we were to be Cooper's Creek, a little above Philadelphia; which, in reality we perceived the moment we were out of the creek. We arrived on Sunday about eight or nine o'clock in the morning, and landed on Market-street wharf.

I have entered into the particulars of my voyage, and shall, in like manner, describe my first entrance into this city, that you may compare beginnings so little auspicious, with the figure I have since made.

On my arrival at Philadelphia I was in my working dress, my best clothes being to come by sea. I was covered with dirt; my pockets were filled with shirts and stockings; I was unacquainted with a single soul in the place, and knew not where to look for a lodging. Fatigued with walking, rowing, and having passed the night without sleep, I was extremely hungry, *and all my money* consisted of a Dutch dollar, and

gerly on both sides, till I came to Market-street, v
I met with a child with a loaf of bread. Often
I made my dinner on dry bread. I inquired v
he had bought it, and went straight to the ba
shop which he pointed out to me. I asked for
Biscuits, expecting to find such as we had at Bo
but they made, it seems, none of that sort at i
delphia I then asked for a three-penny loaf.
made no loaves of that price. Finding myself
rant of the prices, as well as of the different kin
bread, I desired him to let me have three-pe
worth of bread of some kind or other. He gav
three large rolls. I was surprised at receivi
much I took them, however, and having no roo
my pockets, I walked on with a roll under each
eating the third. In this manner I went through
ket-street to Fourth-street, and passed the hou
Mr. Read, the father of my future wife. She
standing at the door, observed me, and thought
reason, that I made a very singular and grotesqu
pearance.

I then turned the corner, and went through C
nut-street, eating my roll all the way; and h
made this round, I found myself again on Ma

and being drowsy from my last night's labour and want of rest, I fell into a sound sleep. In this state I continued till the assembly dispersed, when one of the congregation had the goodness to wake me. This was consequently the first house I entered, or in which I slept in Philadelphia.

I began again to walk along the street by the riverside; and, looking attentively in the face of every one I met with, I at length perceived a young quaker whose countenance pleased me. I accosted him, and begged him to inform me where a stranger might find a lodging. We were then near the sign of the Three Mariners. They receive travellers here, said he, but it is not a house that bears a good character; if you will go with me, I will show you a better one. He conducted me to the Crooked Billet, in Water-street. There I ordered something for dinner, and, during my meal, a number of curious questions were put to me; my youth and appearance exciting the suspicion of my being a runaway. After dinner my drowsiness returned, and I threw myself upon a bed without taking off my clothes, and slept till six o'clock in the evening, when I was called to supper. I afterwards went to bed at a very early hour, and did not awake till the next morning.

As soon as I got up I put myself in as decent a trim as I could, and went to the house of Andrew Bradford, the printer. I found his father in the shop, whom I had seen at New-York. Having travelled on horseback, he had arrived at Philadelphia before me. He introduced me to his son, who received me with civility, and gave me some breakfast; but told me he had no occasion at present for a journeyman, having lately procured one. He added, that there was another printer newly settled in the town, of the name of Keimer, who might perhaps employ me; and that in case of refusal, I should be welcome to lodge at his house, and he would give me a little work now and then, till something better should offer.

The old man offered to introduce me to the new printer. When we were at his house, "Neighbour," said he, "I bring you a young man in the printing business; perhaps you may have need of his services."

ted his project [illegible]
success. Bradford was careful not [illegible]
was father of the other printer; and fro
mer had said, that he hoped shortly to
sion of the greater part of the business
led him, by artful questions, and by sta
ficulties, to disclose all his views, what
founded upon, and how he intended
was present, and heard it all. I inst
one of the two was a cunning old fox,
perfect novice. Bradford left me wi
was strangely surprised when I inf
the old man was.

I found Keimer's printing material
old damaged press, and a small fount o
letters, with which he himself was
elegy on Aquila Rose, whom I have
an ingenious young man, and of ar
ter, highly esteemed in the town, s
sembly, and a very tolerable poet.
verses, but they were indifferent o
he said to write in verse, for his me
lines as they flowed from his muse
without copy, had but one set of
[illegible] would probably occupy all h
[illegible] assist him.

of every qualification necessary in their profession. Bradford had not been brought up to it, and was very illiterate. Keimer, though he understood a little of the business, was merely a compositor, and wholly incapable of working at press. He had been one of the French prophets, and knew how to imitate their supernatural agitations. At the time of our first acquaintance he professed no particular religion, but a little of all upon occasion. He was totally ignorant of the world, and a great knave at heart, as I had afterwards an opportunity of experiencing.

Keimer, could not endure that, working with him, I should lodge at Bradford's. He had indeed a house, but it was unfurnished, so that he could not take me in. He procured me a lodging at Mr. Reed's, his landlord, whom I have already mentioned. My trunk and effects being now arrived, I thought of making, in the eyes of Miss Reed, a more respectable appearance than when chance exhibited me to her view, eating my roll, and wandering in the streets.

From this period I began to contract acquaintance with such young people as were fond of reading, and spent my evenings with them agreeably, while at the same time, I gained money by my industry, and, thanks to my frugality, lived contented. I thus forgot Boston as much as possible, and wished every one to be ignorant of the place of my residence, except my friend Collins; to whom I wrote, and who kept my secret.

An incident however arrived, which sent me home much sooner than I had proposed. I had a brother-in-law, by the name of Robert Holmes, master of a trading sloop from Boston to Delaware. Being at Newcastle, forty miles below Philadelphia, he heard of me, and wrote to inform me of the chagrin which my sudden departure from Boston had occasioned my parents, and of the affections which they still entertained for me, assuring me that, if I would return, every thing should be adjusted to my satisfaction: and he was very pressing in his entreaties: I answered his letter, thanked him for his advice, and explained the reasons which had induced me to quit Boston, with

ought to be encouraged; that there wer
phia none but very ignorant printers, and
to set up for myself, he had no doubt of
that, for his own part, he would procure m
lic business, and would render me every
in his power. My brother-in-law related
afterwards at Boston; but I knew nothin
time; when one day Keimer and I, being
ther near the window, we saw the Goven
ther gentleman, Colonel French, of New
somely dressed, cross the street, and mak
our house. We heard them at the door,
believing it to be a visit to himself, went
down; but the Governor inquired for m
stairs, and, with a condescension and
which I had not at all been accustomed, pi
compliments, desired to be acquainted wit
ingly reproached me for not having made m
to him on my arrival in the town, and w
accompany him to a tavern, where he and
were going to taste some excellent Madei

I was, I confess, somewhat surprised,
appeared thunderstruck. I went, howev
Governor and the Colonel to a tavern, at th

doubt would determine him. It was thus concluded that I should return to Boston by the first vessel, with the letter of recommendation, from the Governor to my father. Meanwhile the project was to be kept secret, and I continued to work for Keimer as before.

The Governor sent every now and then to invite me to dine with him. I considered this as a very great honour; and was the more sensible of it, as he conversed with me in the most affable, familiar, and friendly manner imaginable.

Towards the end of April, 1724, a small vessel was ready to sail for Boston. I took leave of Keimer, upon the pretext of going to see my parents. The Governor gave me a long letter, in which he said many flattering things of me to my father; and strongly recommended the project of my settling at Philadelphia, as a thing which could not fail to make my fortune.

Going down the bay we struck on a flat, and sprung a leak. The weather was very tempestuous, and we were obliged to pump without intermission; I took my turn. We arrived, however, safe and sound, at Boston, after about a fortnight's passage.

I had been absent seven complete months, and my relations, during the interval, had received no intelligence of me: for my brother-in-law, Holmes, was not yet returned, and had not written about me. My unexpected appearance surprised the family; but they were all delighted at seeing me again, and, except my brother, welcomed me home. I went to him at the printing-house. I was better dressed than I had ever been while in his service: I had a complete suit of clothes, new and neat, a watch in my pocket, and my purse was furnished with nearly five pounds sterling in money. He gave me no very civil reception: and, having eyed me from head to foot, resumed his work.

The workmen asked me with eagerness where I had been, what sort of a country it was, and how I liked it. I spoke in the highest terms of Philadelphia, the happy life we led there, and expressed my intention of going back again. One of them asking what sort of money we had, I displayed before them a handful of silver, which I drew from my pocket. This was a curiosity to which they were not accustomed, paper

insulted him before [illegible]
get or forgive it; in this, however, he wi

The Governor's letter appeared to ex
ther some surprise; but he said little. A
Captain Holmes being returned, he sl
asking him if he knew Keith, and what
he was: adding, that, in his opinion, i
little discernment to think of setting up
ness, who, for three years to come, wo
an age to be ranked in the class of men
every thing he could in favour of the sc
father firmly maintained its absurdity, a
a positive refusal. He wrote, howeve
to Sir William, thanking him for the pr
so obligingly offered me, but refusing
the present, because he thought me t
entrusted with the conduct of so imp
prise, and which would require so co
of money.

My old comrade, Collins, who wa
post-office, charmed with the accou
new residence, expressed a desire t
and, while I waited my father's dete
off before me by land for Rhode I
[illegible] which formed a handsome co

and sarcasm, to which he thought I was too inclined; adding, that with perseverence and economy, I might, by the time I became of age, ough to establish myself in business; and that all sum should then be wanting, he would un- to supply it.

was all I could obtain from him, except some presents, in token of friendship from him and ther. I embarked once more for New-York, ed at this time with their approbation and g. The sloop having touched at Newport, in Island, I paid a visit to my brother John, who some years been settled there, and was married. d always been attached to me, and he received th great affection. One of his friends, whose was Vernon, having a debt of about thirty-six due him in Pennsylvania, begged me to receive him, and to keep the money till I should hear im; accordingly he gave me an order for that e. This affair occasioned me, in the sequel, uneasiness.

Newport we took on board a number of passen- among whom were two young women, and a grave nsible quaker lady with her servants. I had an obliging forwardness in rendering the quaker rifing services, which led her, probably, to feel rest in my welfare; for when she saw a famili- ke place, and every day increase, between the ung women and me, she took me aside, and Young man, I am in pain for thee. Thou hast nt to watch over thy conduct, and thou seemest gnorant of the world, and the snares to which s exposed. Rely upon what I tell thee: those men of bad characters: I perceive it in all their . If thou dost not take care, they will lead thee nger. They are strangers to thee, and I advise y the friendly interest I take in thy preservation, no connexion with them." As I appeared at t to think quite so ill of them as she did, she re many things she had seen and heard, which had d my attention, but which convinced me that s in the right. I thanked her for her obliging , and *promised to follow it.*

which the vessel struck during our passag
another of a still more dangerous nature.

At New-York, I found my friend Collin
arrived some time before We had been in
our infancy, and had read the same boo
but he had the advantage of being able to
time to reading and study, and an astonisl
tion for mathematics, in which he left me
him. When at Boston, I had been accusto
with him almost all my leisure hours. H
a sober and industrious lad, his knowledge
him a very general esteem, and he seemed t
make an advantageous figure in society.
my absence, he had unfortunately addicte
brandy, and I learned, as well from hims
the report of others, that every day since hi
New-York, he had been intoxicated, and h
a very extravagant manner. He had also
lost all his money; so that I was obliged to
penses at the inn, and to maintain him dur
of his journey; a burthen that was very in
to me.

The Governor of New-York, whose nam
net, hearing the Captain say, that a young
was a passenger in his ship had a great

ved at Philadelphia. On the way I received
noney, without which we should have been
have finished our journey.
wished to get employment as a merchant's
either his breath or his countenance betray-
habit; for though he had recommendations,
th no success, and continued to lodge and eat
and at my expense. Knowing that I had
noney, he was continually asking me to lend
of it; promising to repay me as soon as h
t employment. At last he had drawn so
his money, that I was extremely alarmed at
it become of me, should he fail to make good
ency. His habit of drinking did not at all
and was a frequent source of discord be-
; for when he had drank a little too much,
ry headstrong.
ne day in a boat together, on the Delaware,
other young persons, he refused to take his
wing. "You shall row for me," said he, "till
me."—"No," I replied, "we will not row for
You shall," said he, "or remain upon the wa-
it."—"As you please." Let us row, said the
company; what signifies whether he assists
But, already angry with him for his conduct
espects, I persisted in my refusal. He then
t he would make me row, or would throw
the boat; and he made up to me. As soon
within my reach, I took him by the collar,
a violent thrust, and threw him head fore-
the river. I knew that he was a good swim-
was therefore under no apprehensions for
Before he could turn himself, we were able,
strokes of our oars, to place ourselves out of
; and, whenever he touched the boat, we ask-
he would row, striking his hands at the same
the oars to make him let go his hold. He
y suffocated with rage, but obstinately refus-
any promise to row. Perceiving, at length,
trength began to be exhausted, we took him
oat, and conveyed him home, in the evening,
y drenched. The utmost coldness subsisted
e after this adventure. At last the captain

since.

The violation of the trust repoed in
was one of the first great errors of m
proves my father was not mistaken whe
me too young to be entrusted with th
of important affairs. But Sir William
his letter, thought him too prudent. T
ference, he said, between individuals:
rity were not always accompanied
neither was youth in every instanc
"Since your father," added he, will
business, I will do it myself. Make
will be wanted from England, and I
articles. You shall repay me when y
termined to have a good printer he
you will succeed." This was said w
ing cordiality, that I suspected no
sincerity of the offer. I had hither
with which Sir William had inspir
business, a secret at Philadelphia,
to do so. Had my reliance on
known, some friend, better acqu
racter than myself, would doubtl
not to trust him; for I afterward
known to be liberal

stationers and booksellers." This I acknowledged was desirable. "That being the case," added he, "hold yourself in readiness to go with the Annis." This was the annual vessel, and the only one, at that time, which made regular voyages between the ports of London and Philadelphia. But the Annis was not to sail for some months. I therefore continued to work with Keimer, unhappy respecting the sum which Collins had drawn from me, and almost in continual agony at the thoughts of Vernon, who fortunately made no demand of his money till several years after.

In the account of my first voyage from Boston to Philadelphia, I omitted, I believe, a trifling circumstance, which will not, perhaps, be out of place here. During a calm, which stopped us above Block Island, the crew employed themselves in fishing for cod, of which they caught a great number. I had hitherto adhered to my resolution of not eating any thing that had possessed life; and I considered, on this occasion, agreeably to the maxims of my master Tyron, the capture of every fish as a sort of murder, committed without provocation, since these animals had neither done, nor were capable of doing, the smallest injury to any one that should justify the measure. This mode of reasoning I conceived to be unanswerable. Meanwhile, I had formerly been extremely fond of fish; and, when one of these cods was taken out of the frying-pan, I thought its flavour delicious. I hesitated some time between principle and inclination, till at last recollecting, that when the cod had been opened some small fish were found in its belly, I said to myself, if you eat one another, I see no reason why we may not eat you. I accordingly dined on the cod with no small degree of pleasure, and have since continued to eat like the rest of mankind, returning only occasionally to my vegetable plan. How convenient does it prove to be a *rational animal*, that knows how to find or invent a plausible pretext for whatever it has an inclination to do.

I continued to live upon good terms with Keimer, who had not the smallest suspicion of my projected establishment. He still retained a portion of his former enthusiasm; and, being fond of argument, we fre-

miliar question without previously asking me—W
would you infer from that? Hence he formed so h
an opinion of my talents for refutation, that he s
ously proposed to me to become his colleague in
establishment of a new religious sect. He was to p
pagate the doctrine by preaching, and I to refute ev
opponent.

When he explained to me his tenets, I found ma
absurdities which I refused to admit, unless he wo
agree in turn to adopt some of my opinions. Kein
wore his beard long, because Moses had somewh
said, "Thou shalt not mar the corners of thy bear
He likewise observed the Sabbath; and these w
with him two very essential points. I disliked th
both; but I consented to adopt them, provided
would agree to abstain from animal food. "I doub
said he, "whether my constitution will be able to s
port it." I assured him on the contrary, that he wo
find himself the better for it. He was naturally a gl
ton, and I wished to amuse myself by starving him.
consented to make trial of this regimen, if I wo
bear him company; and, in reality, we continued
for three months. A woman in the neighbourho
prepared and brought us our victuals, to whom I gav

I continued it cheerfully; but poor Keimer suffered terribly. Tired of the project, he sighed for the flesh-pots of Egypt. At length he ordered a roast pig, and invited me and two of our female acquaintance to dine with him; but the pig being ready a little too soon, he could not resist the temptation, and eat it all up before we arrived.

During the circumstances I have related, I had paid some attentions to Miss Read. I entertained for her the utmost esteem and affection; and I had reason to believe that these sentiments were mutual. But we were both young, scarcely more than eighteen years of age; and, as I was on the point of undertaking a long voyage, her mother thought it prudent to prevent matters being carried too far for the present, judging that, if marriage was our object, there would be more propriety in it after my return, when, as at least I expected, I should be established in my business. Perhaps also she thought that my expectations were not so well founded as I imagined.

My most intimate acquaintances at this time were Charles Osborne, Joseph Watson, and James Ralph; young men who were all fond of reading. The two first were clerks to Mr. Charles Brockdon, one of the principal attorneys in the town, and the other, clerk to a merchant. Watson was an upright, pious, and sensible youngman: the others were somewhat more loose in their principles of religion, particularly Ralph, whose faith, as well as that of Collins, I had contributed to shake; each of whom made me suffer a very adequate punishment. Osborne was sensible, and sincere and affectionate in his friendships, but too much inclined to the critic in matters of literature. Ralph was ingenious and shrewd, genteel in his address, and extremely eloquent. I do not remember to have met with a more agreeable speaker. They were both enamoured of the muses, and had already evinced their passion by some small poetical productions.

It was the custom with us to take a charming walk on Sundays, in the woods that border the Skuylkill. Here we read together, and afterwards conversed on what we read. Ralph was disposed to give himself up entirely to poetry. He flattered himself that he

quire the means of setting up for yourself
curred in these sentiments, but at the sam
pressed my approbation of amusing ourse
time with poetry, with a view to improve
In consequence of this it was proposed, t
next meeting, each of us should bring a cop
of his own composition. Our object in thi
tion was to benefit each other by our mutu
criticisms, and corrections; and as style a
sion were all we had in view, we excluded
of invention, by agreeing that our task sl
version of the eighteenth psalm, in which i
the descent of the Deity.

The time of our meeting drew near, w
called upon me, and told me that his p
was ready. I informed him that I had bee
not much liking the task, had done nothing
ed me his piece, and asked me what I th
I expressed myself in terms of warm ap
because it really appeared to have conside
He then said, "Osborne will never ackn
smallest degree of excellence in any pr
mine. Envy alone dictates to him a th
madversions. Of you, he is not so jealo

Ralph did it justice, remarking a few imperfections, and applauding such parts as were excellent. He had himself nothing to show. It was now my turn. I made some difficulty; seemed as if I wished to be excused; pretended that I had no time to make corrections, &c. No excuse, however, was admissible, the piece must be produced. It was read and re-read. Watson and Osborne immediately resigned the palm, and united in applauding it. Ralph alone made a few remarks, and proposed some alterations; but I defended my text. Osborne agreed with me, and told Ralph that he was no more able to criticise than he was able to write.

When Osborne was alone with me, he expressed himself still more strongly in favour of what he considered as my performance. He pretended that he had put some restraint on himself before, apprehensive of my construing his commendations into flattery. "But who would have supposed," said he, "Franklin to be capable of such a composition? What painting, what energy, what fire! He has surpassed the original. In his common conversation he appears not to have a choice of words; he hesitates, and is at a loss; and yet, good God, how he writes."

At our next meeting, Ralph discovered the trick we had played Osborne, who was rallied without mercy.

By this adventure Ralph was fixed in his resolution of becoming a poet. I left nothing unattempted to divert him from his purpose; but he persevered, till at last the reading of Pope* effected his cure: he became, however, a very tolerable prose writer. I shall speak more of him hereafter; but as I shall probably have no farther occasion to mention the other two, I ought to observe here, that Watson died a few years after in my arms. He was greatly regretted; for he was the best of our society. Osborne went to the islands where he gained considerable reputation as a barrister, and was getting money; but he died young.

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* Probably the Dunciad, where we find him thus immortalized by the author:

> Silence ye wolves, while Ralph to Cynthia howls
> And makes night hideous; answer him ye owls!

sary sum for the purchase [illegible]
paper. He appointed various times for me to
for these letters, which would certainly be ready;
when I came, always put me off to another day.
ese successive delays continued till the vessel,
e departure had been several times deferred, was
e point of setting sail; when I again went to Sir
iam's house, to receive my letters and take leave
m. I saw his secretary, Dr. Bard, who told me,
the Governor was extremely busy writing, but that
ould be down at Newcastle before the vessel, and
the letters would be delivered to me there.
lph, though he was married and had a child, de-
ined to accompany me in this voyage. His ob-
was supposed to be the establishing a corres-
lence with some mercantile houses, in order to
goods by commission; but I afterwards learned
, having reason to be dissatisfied with the parents
is wife, he proposed to himself to leave her on
r hands, and never return to America again.
Having taken leave of my friends, and interchang
promises of fidelity with Miss Read, I quitte
ladelphia. At Newcastle, the vessel came to an
r. The Governor was arrived, and I went to hi
His secretary received me with great civil

, had taken a passage to England for himself and
on, and, in conjunction with Mr. Denham, a gen
and Messrs. Oniam and Russel, proprietors of a
in Maryland, had agreed for the whole cabin, c
Ralph and I were obliged to take up our lodg
with the crew. Being unknown to every body in
hip, we were looked upon as of the common o
of people: but Mr. Hamilton and his son (it wa
es, who was afterwards governor) left us at New
e, and returned to Philadelphia, where he wa
led at a very great expense, to plead the cause of
sel that had been seized; and just as we were
it to sail, Colonel French came on board, and
ved me many civilities. The passengers upon
paid me more attention, and I was invited, to
er with my friend Ralph, to occupy the place i
abin which the return of the Messrs. Hamilton
made vacant; an offer which we very readily
pted.

aving learned that the despatches of the Governo
been brought on board by Colonel French, I asked
aptain for the letters that were to be entrusted t
are. He told me that they were all put togethe
e bag, which he could not open at present; but,
e we reached England, he would give me an op
nity of taking them out. I was satisfied with
answer, and we pursued our voyage.

e company in the cabin were all very sociable;
we were perfectly well off as to provisions, a
had the advantage of the whole of Mr. Hamil
, who had laid in a very plentiful stock. Durin
assage, Mr. Denham contracted a friendship fo
which ended only with his life: in other respects
oyage was by no means an agreeable one, as we
nuch bad weather.

hen we arrived in the river, the captain was
as his word, and allowed me to search in th
for the Governor's letters. I could not find
one with my name written on it, as committed
care; but I selected six or seven, which I judged
the direction to be those that were intended
e; particularly one to Mr. Basket, the King's
er, and another to a stationer, who was the first

I was astonished at finding t
from the Governor. Reflecting,
stances together, I then began to
I rejoined my friend Denham, a
affair to him. He let me at on
racter, told me there was not th
of his having written a single lett
knew him ever placed any reliance
ed at my credulity in supposing
would give me a letter of credi
credit for himself. As I showed
pecting what step I should take, h
to get employment in the house
"You may there," said he, "in
business, and you will be able to
more advantageously when you r
p. We knew already as well as the
Riddlesden to be a knave. He
the father of Miss Read, by drawi
security. We learned from his
secretly carrying on an intrigue, i
Governor, to the prejudice of Mr.
was supposed, would, by this tin
Denham, who was Hamilton's frie
that he ought to be mad

play so scurvy a trick, and thus grossly deceive a poor young lad, wholly destitute of experience? It was a practice with him. Wishing to please every body, and having little to bestow, he was lavish of promises. He was, in other respects, sensible and judicious, a very tolerable writer, and a good governor for the people; though not so for the proprietaries, whose instructions he frequently disregarded. Many of our best laws were his work, and established during his administration.

Ralph and I were inseparable companions. We took a lodging together at three and sixpence a-week, which was as much as we could afford. He met with some relations in London, but they were poor, and not able to assist him. He now, for the first time, informed me of his intention to remain in England, and that he had no thoughts of ever returning to Philadelphia. He was totally without money; the little he had been able to raise having barely sufficed for his passage. I had still fifteen pistoles remaining; and to me he had from time to time recourse, while he tried to get employment.

At first believing himself possessed of talents for the stage, he thought of turning actor; but Wilkes, to whom he applied, frankly advised him to renounce the idea, as it was impossible he could succeed. He next proposed to Roberts, a bookseller in Paternoster-row, to write a weekly paper in the manner of the Spectator, upon terms to which Roberts would not listen. Lastly, he endeavoured to procure employment as a copyist, and applied to the lawyers and stationers about the Temple, but he could find no vacancy.

As to myself, I immediately got engaged at Palmer's, at that time a noted printer in Bartholomew-close, with whom I continued nearly a year. I applied very assiduously to my work; but I expended with Ralph almost all that I earned. Plays, and other places of amusement, which we frequented together, having exhausted my pistoles, we lived after this from hand to mouth. He appeared to have entirely forgotten his wife and child, as I also, by degrees, forgot my engagements with Miss Read, to whom I never wrote more than one letter, and that merely to inform her

wrote a small me
madverted on those passages.
sertation on Liberty and Necessity, Ple
I dedicated it to my friend Ralph, and
number of copies. Palmer, upon this,
more consideration, and regarded me
of talents; though he seriously took m
principles of my pamphlet, which he
abominable. The printing of this w
error of my life.

While I lodged in Little Britain,
quaintance with a bookseller of the n
whose shop was next door to me. C
ries were not then in use. He had
lection of books of all sorts. We
reasonable retribution, of which I h
the price. I should have free access
take what books I pleased, which
when I had read them. I conside
as a very great advantage: and I
much benefit as was in my power

My pamphlet falling into the h
of the name of Lyons author of
fallibility of Human Judgment
considerable intimacy betw

the asbestos, which fire only purifies. Sir Hans Sloane hearing of it, called upon me, and invited me to his house in Bloomsbury-square, where, after showing me every thing that was curious, he prevailed on me to add this piece to his collection; for which he paid me very handsomely.

There lodged in the same house with us a young woman, a milliner, who had a shop by the side of the Exchange. Lively and sensible, and having received an education somewhat above her rank, her conversation was very agreeable. Ralph read plays to her every evening. They became intimate. She took another lodging, and he followed her. They lived for some time together; but Ralph being without employment, she having a child, and the profits of her business not sufficing for the maintenance of three, he resolved to quit London, and try a country school. This was a plan in which he thought himself likely to succeed; as he wrote a fine hand, and was versed in arithmetic and accounts. But considering the place as beneath him, and expecting some day to make a better figure in the world, when he should be ashamed of its being known that he had exercised a profession so little honourable, he changed his name, and did me the honour of assuming mine. He wrote to me, soon after his departure, informing me that he was settled at a small village in Berkeshire. In his letter he recommended Mrs. T the milliner, to my care, and requested an answer, directed to Mr. Franklin, schoolmaster, at N***.

He continued to write to me frequently, sending me large fragments of an epic poem he was composing, and which he requested me to criticise and correct. I did so, but not without endeavouring to prevail on him to renounce this pursuit. Young had just published one of his Satires. I copied and sent him a great part of it, in which the author demonstrates the folly of cultivating the muses, from the hope, by their instrumentality, of rising in the world. It was all to no purpose; paper after paper of his poem continued to arrive every post.

Meanwhile Mrs. T*** having lost, on his account, both *her friends and business*, was frequently in dis-

breach between us. When he retur
he gave me to understand that he co
obligations he owed me as annihilat
ceeding; whence I concluded that I
pect the payment of what money h
advanced on his account. I was the
this, as he was wholly unable to pay
losing his friendship, I was relieved a
from a very heavy burden.

I now began to think of laying b
The printing-house of Watts, near
fields, being a still more considerabl
in which I worked, it was probable
more advantageous to be employed t
myself, and was accepted; and in th
tinued during the remainder of my st

On my entrance, I worked at first
conceiving that I had need of bod
which I had been accustomed in Ame
printers work alternately as composit
press. I drank nothing but water. T
men, to the number of about fifty, wer
of beer. I carried, occasionally, a larg
in each hand, up and down stairs, wh
ployed both hands to

but he had need, he said, of all this beer, in or-
acquire strength to work.
ndeavoured to convince him that the bodily
th furnished by the beer, could only be in pro-
n to the solid part of the barley dissolved in the
of which the beer was composed; that there
larger portion of flour in a penny loaf, and that
quently if he ate this loaf, and drank a pint of
with it, he would derive more strength from it
from a pint of beer. This reasoning, however,
ot prevent him from drinking his accustomed
ity of beer, and paying every Saturday night a
of four or five shillings a-week for this cursed
age; an expense from which I was wholly ex-
. Thus do these poor devils continue all their
in a state of voluntary wretchedness and po-

the end of a few weeks, Watts having occasion
e above stairs as a compositor, I quitted the
The compositors demanded of me garnish-
y afresh. This I considered as an imposition,
g already paid below. The master was of the
opinion, and desired me not to comply. I thus
ned two or three weeks out of the fraternity. I
consequently looked upon as excommunicated;
vhenever I was absent, no little trick that ma-
could suggest was left unpractised upon me. I
my letters mixed, my pages transposed, my
r broken, &c. &c. all which was attributed to
pirit that haunted the chapel,* and tormented
that were not regularly admitted. I was at last
d to submit to pay, notwithstanding the protec-
f the master; convinced of the folly of not keep-
p a good understanding with those among whom
e destined to live.
er this I lived in the utmost harmony with my
-labourers, and soon acquired considerable in-
e among them. I proposed some alteration in
ws of the chapel, which I carried without oppo-
. My example prevailed with several of them

---

inting-houses in general are thus denominated by the
nen: the *spirit* they call by the name of Ralph.

themselves with beer, ofte
the publican, from neglecting to
had then recourse to me, to bec
their light, as they used to call
rended at the pay-table every
take up the little sum which I i
swerable for, and which som
only thirty shillings a week.

This circumstance, added to
ing a tolerable good *gabber*, or, i
in the art of burlesque, kept up n
chapel. I had besides recomm
esteem of my master by my assid
business, never observing Saint M
ordinary quickness in composin
me such work as was most urgent
monly best paid; and thus my ti
a very pleasant manner.

My lodging in Little Britain be
printing-house, I took another in
site the Roman Catholic chapel.
of an Italian warehouse The ho
widow, who had a daughter, a se
boy; but the latter slept out of
sending to the people with wh

persons of distinction; of whom she knew various anecdotes as far back as the time of Charles II. Being subject to fits of the gout, which often confined her to her room, she was sometimes disposed to see company. Her's was so amusing to me, that I was glad to pass the evening with her as often as she desired it. Our supper consisted only of half an anchovy a-piece, upon a slice of bread and butter, with half a pint of ale between us. But the entertainment was in her conversation.

The early hours I kept, and the little trouble I occasioned in the family, made her loth to part with me; and when I mentioned another lodging I had found, nearer the printing-house, at two shillings a-week, which fell in with my plan of saving, she persuaded me to give it up, making herself an abatement of two shillings: and thus I continued to lodge with her, during the remainder of my abode in London, at eighteen-pence a week.

In a garret of the house there lived, in a most retired manner, a lady, seventy years of age, of whom I received the following account from my landlady. She was a Roman Catholic. In her early years she had been sent to the continent, and entered a convent with the design of becoming a nun; but the climate not agreeing with her constitution, she was obliged to return to England, where, as there were no monasteries, she made a vow to lead a monastic life, in as rigid a manner as circumstances would permit. She accordingly disposed of all her property to be applied to charitable uses, reserving to herself only twelve pounds a year: and of this small pittance she gave a part to the poor, living on watergruel, and never making use of fire but to boil it. She had lived in this garret a great many years, without paying rent to the successive Catholic inhabitants that had kept the house; who indeed considered her abode with them as a blessing. A priest came every day to confess her. "I have asked her," said my landlady, "how, living as she did, she could find so much employment for a confessor? To which she answered, that it was impossible to avoid vain thoughts."

I was once permitted to visit her. She was cheer

sufficient to maintain life and health.

At the printing-house, I contracted an
with a sensible young man of the name of
who, as his parents were in good circumsta
received a better education than is comm
printers. He was a tolerable Latin scho
French fluently, and was fond of reading.
him, as well as a friend of his, to swim,
them twice only into the river; after w
stood in need of no farther assistance. W
made a party to go by water to Chelsea, i
see the College, and Don Soltero's curio
our return, at the request of the company,
riosity Wygate had excited, I undressed r
leaped into the river. I swam from near (
whole way to Black-friars-bridge, exhibit
my course, a variety of feats of activity a
both upon the surface of the water, as we
it. This sight occasioned much astonis
pleasure to those to whom it was new. I
I took great delight in this exercise. I
could execute, all the evolutions and
Theveno'; and I added to them some
invention, in which I endeavoured to un
I took a pleasure in disr

I was on the point of consenting, when I mentioned it to my friend, Mr. Denham, with whom I was glad to pass an hour whenever I had leisure. He dissuaded me from the project, and advised me to think of returning to Philadelphia, which he was about to do himself. I must relate in this place a trait of this worthy man's character.

He had formerly been in business at Bristol, but failing, he compounded with his creditors, and departed for America, where, by assiduous application as a merchant, he acquired in a few years a very considerable fortune. Returning to England in the same vessel with myself, as I have related above, he invited all his old creditors to a feast. When assembled, he thanked them for the readiness with which they had received his small composition; and, while they expected nothing more than a simple entertainment, each found under his plate, when it came to be removed, a draft upon a banker for the residue of his debt, with interest.

He told me that it was his intention to carry back with him to Philadelphia, a great quantity of goods in order to open a store; and he offered to take me with him in the capacity of clerk, to keep his books in which he would instruct me, copy letters, and superintend the store. He added, that as soon as I had acquired a knowledge of mercantile transactions, he would improve my situation, by sending me with a cargo of corn and flour to the American islands, and by procuring me other lucrative commissions; so that with good management and economy, I might in time begin business with advantage for myself.

I relished these proposals. London began to tire me; the agreeable hours I had passed at Philadelphia presented themselves to my mind, and I wished to see them revive. I consequently engaged myself to Mr. Denham, at a salary of fifty pounds a year. This was indeed less than I earned as a compositor, but then I had a much fairer prospect. I took leave, therefore, as I believed for ever, of printing, and gave myself up to my new occupation, spending all my time either in going from house to house with Mr. Denham to purchase goods, or in packing them up

in the course of a few hours. His two sons
the point of setting out on their travels; he
sirous that they should previously learn to sw
offerod me a very liberal reward if I would un
to instruct them. They were not yet arrived i
and the stay I should make was uncertain;
not therefore accept his proposal. I was le
ever, to suppose from this incident, that il
wished to remain in London, and open a sw
school, I should perhaps have gained a great
money. The idea struck me so forcibly, th
the offer been made sooner, I should have di
the thought of returning as yet to America.
years after, you and I had a more important t
to settle with one of the sons of Sir William
ham, then Lord Egremont. But let us not an
events.

I thus passed about eighteen months in L
working almost without intermission at my
avoiding all expense on my own account, exc
ing now and then to the play, and purchasin
books. But my friend Ralph kept me poor. H
me about twenty-seven pounds, which was sc
money lost, and when considered as taken fr

minutely related. We landed at Philadelphia on the 11th of the following October.

Keith had been deprived of his office of governor, and was succeeded by Major Gordon. I met him walking in the streets as a private individual. He appeared a little ashamed at seeing me, but passed on without saying any thing.

I should have been equally ashamed myself at meeting Miss Read, had not her family, justly despairing of my return after reading my letter, advised her to give me up, and marry a potter, of the name of Rogers; to which she consented: but he never made her happy, and she soon separated from him, refusing to cohabit with him, or even bear his name, on account of a report which prevailed, of his having another wife. His skill in his profession had seduced Miss Read's parents; but he was as bad a subject as he was excellent as a workman. He involved himself in debt, and fled, in the year 1727 or 1728, to the West Indies, where he died.

During my absence, Keimer had taken a more considerable house, in which he kept a shop, that was well supplied with paper, and various other articles. He had procured some new types, and a number of workmen; among whom, however, there was not one who was good for any thing; and he appeared not to want business.

Mr. Denham took a warehouse in Water-street, where we exhibited our commodities. I applied myself closely, studied accounts, and became in a short time very expert in trade. We lodged and eat together. He was sincerely attached to me, and acted towards me as if he had been my father. On my side, I respected and loved him. My situation was happy; but it was a happiness of no long duration.

Early in February, 1727, when I entered into my twenty-second year, we were both taken ill I was attacked with a pleurisy. which had nearly carried me off; I suffered terribly, and considered it as all over with me. I felt indeed a sort of disappointment when I found myself likely to recover, and regretted that I had still to experience, sooner or later, the same disagreeable scene again.

at Philadelphia, advised me to [illegible]
profession; and Keimer offered me a ve
ble salary if I would undertake the ma
his printing-office, that he might devote
tirely to the superintendence of his sho
and relations in London had given me a
ter of him; and I was loth, for the pre
any concern with him. I endeavoured t
ment as a clerk to a merchant; but not
ing a situation, I was induced to acc
proposal.

The following were the persons I found
ing-house.

Hugh Meredith, a Pennsylvanian, abo
years of age. He had been brought up t
was honest, sensible, had some experie
fond of reading; but too much addicted

Stephen Potts, a young rustic, just
school, and of rustic education, with
rather above the common order, and a co
tion of understanding and gayety; but
Keimer had engaged these two at ve
which he had promised to raise every th
shilling a week, provided their improve
typographic art should merit it. This fi

him for a compositor. I shall speak more of him presently.

Lastly, David Harry, a country lad, who was apprenticed to nim.

I soon perceived that Keimer's intention, in engaging me at a price so much above what he was accustomed to give, was, that I might form all these raw journeymen and apprentices, who scarcely cost him any thing, and who, being indentured, would, as soon as they should be sufficiently instructed, enable him to do without me. I nevertheless adhered to my agreement. I put the office in order, which was in the utmost confusion, and brought his people, by degrees, to pay attention to their work, and to execute it in a more masterly style.

It was singular to see an Oxford scholar in the condition of a purchased servant. He was not more than eighteen years of age; and the following are the particulars he gave me of himself. Born at Gloucester, he had been educated at a grammar-school, and had distinguished himself among the scholars, by his superior style of acting, when they represented dramatic performances. He was member of a literary club in the town; and some pieces of his composition, in prose as well as in verse, had been inserted in the Gloucester papers. From hence he was sent to Oxford, where he remained about a year: but he was not contented, and wished above all things to see London, and become an actor. At length, having received fifteen guineas to pay his quarter's board, he decamped with the money from Oxford, hid his gown in a hedge, and travelled to London. There, having no friend to direct him, he fell into bad company, soon squandered his fifteen guineas, could find no way of being introduced to the actors, became contemptible, pawned his clothes, and was in want of bread. As he was walking along the streets, almost famished with hunger, and not knowing what to do, a recruiting bill was put into his hand, which offered an immediate treat and bounty-money to whoever was disposed to serve in America. He instantly repaired to the house of rendezvous, enlisted himself, was put on board a ship, and conveyed to America,

from me every day. We never worl
day, it being Keimer's sabbath; so
days a-week for reading.

I increased my acquaintance with p
ledge and information in the town.
treated me with great civility and ap
and I had nothing to give me uneasin
to Vernon, which I was unable to pay
yet being very little. He had the goo
not to ask me for the money.

Our press was frequently in want o
quantity of letter; and there was no
that of letter-founder in America. I
practice of this art at the house of Jar
but had, at the time, paid it very littl
however contrived to fabricate a moul
of such letters as we had for punches
letters of lead in matrices of clay, and
in a tolerable manner, the wants t
pressing.

I also, upon occasion, engraved vari
made ink, gave an eye to the shop; i
in every respect, the *factotum*. But u
myself, I perceived that my services
day of less importance, in proportio

ing that his ill-humour was partly occasioned by the derangement and embarrassment of his affairs. At last a slight incident broke our connexion. Hearing a noise in the neighbourhood, I put my head out at the window to see what was the matter. Keimer being in the street, observed me, and, in a loud and angry tone, told me to mind my work; adding some reproachful words, which piqued me the more, as they were uttered in the street; and the neighbours, whom the same noise had attracted to the windows, were witnesses of the manner in which I was treated. He immediately came up to the printing-room, and continued to exclaim against me. The quarrel became warm on both sides, and he gave me notice to quit him at the expiration of three months, as had been agreed upon between us; regretting that he was obliged to give me so long a term. I told him that his regret was superfluous, as I was ready to quit him instantly; and I took my hat and came out of the house, begging Meredith to take care of some things which I left, and bring them to my lodgings.

Meredith came to me in the evening. We talked for some time upon the quarrel that had taken place. He had conceived a great veneration for me, and was sorry I should quit the house while he remained in it. He dissuaded me from returning to my native country, as I began to think of doing. He reminded me that Keimer owed me more than he possessed: that his creditors began to be alarmed; that he kept his shop in a wretched state, often selling things at prime cost, for the sake of ready money, and continually giving credit without keeping any accounts: that in consequence, he must very soon fail, which would occasion a vacancy from which I might derive advantage. I objected my want of money. Upon which he informed me that his father had a very high opinion of me, and, from a conversation that had passed between them, he was sure that he would advance whatever might be necessary to establish us, if I was willing to enter into partnership with him. "My time with Keimer," added he, "will be at an end next spring. In the mean time we may send to London for our press and types. I know that Keimer is

which more closely connected with him, I sm
him entirely of this unfortunate habit.

I gave the father a list of what it would be
ry to import from London. He took it to a n
and the order was given. We agreed to kee
cret till the arrival of the materials, and i
the mean time to procure work, if possible, it
printing-house; but there was no place vaca
remained idle. After some days, Keimer he
expectation of being employed to print sor
Jersey money bills, that would require types
gravings which I only could furnish, and fea
Bradford, by engaging me, might deprive hir
undertaking, sent me a very civil message, te
that old friends ought not to be disunited on
of a few words, which were the effect only o
mentary passion, and inviting me to return
Meredith persuaded me to comply with the in
particularly as it would afford him more oppo
of improving himself in the business by mea
instructions. I did so; and we lived upon bet
than before our separation.

He obtained the New-Jersey business; an
der to execute it, I constructed a copper-plate p
press, the first that had been seen in the co

than the law had prescribed. Accordingly they were constantly with us, each in his turn; and he that came, commonly brought with him a friend or two to bear him company. My mind was more cultivated by reading than Keimer's; and it was for this reason, probably, that they set more value on my conversation. They took me to their houses, introduced me to their friends, and treated me with the greatest civility; while Keimer, though master, saw himself a little neglected. He was, in fact, a strange animal, ignorant of the common modes of life, apt to oppose with rudeness generally received opinions, an enthusiast in certain points of religion, disgustingly unclean in his person, and a little knavish withal.

We remained there nearly three months; and at the expiration of this period I could include in the list of my friends, Judge Allen, Samuel Bustil, secretary of the province, Isaac Pearson, Joseph Cooper, several of the Smiths, all members of the Assembly, and Isaac Decon, inspector-general. The last was a shrewd and subtle old man. He told me, that when a boy, his first employment had been that of carrying clay to brick-makers; that he did not learn to write till he was somewhat advanced in life; that he was afterwards employed as an underling to a surveyor, who taught him this trade, and that by industry he had at last acquired a competent fortune. "I foresee," said he one day to me "that you will soon supplant this man (speaking of Keimer,) and get a fortune in the business at Philadelphia." He was totally ignorant at the time, of my intention of establishing myself there, or any where else. These friends were very serviceable to me in the end, as I was also, upon occasion, to some of them; and they have continued ever since their esteem for me.

Before I relate the particulars of my entrance into business, it may be proper to inform you what was at that time the state of my mind as to moral principles, that you may see the degree of influence they had upon the subsequent events of my life.

My parents had given me betimes religious impressions, and I received from my infancy a pious education in the principles of Calvanism. But scarcely

which were cited in order to be r
me much more forcible than the r
a word, I soon became a perfec
ments perverted some other youn
larly Collins and Ralph. But in t
recollected that they had both usec
without the smallest remorse; whe
behaviour of Keith, another free-thi
conduct towards Vernon and Mis
times, gave me great uneasiness, I
that this doctrine, though it might
very useful. I began to entertain
opinion of my London pamphlet, to
fixed, as a motto, the following lines

> Whatever is is right; though purt
> Sees but part of the chain, the ne
> His eyes not carrying to the equal
> That poises all above.

And of which the object was to prov
butes of God, his goodness, wisdom
there could be no such thing as evil in
vice and virtue did not in reality
nothing more

resolution in my Journal, to practise them as long as I lived.

Revelation, indeed, as such, had no influence on my mind; but I was of opinion that, though certain actions could not be bad merely because revelation had prohibited them, or good because it enjoined them, yet it was probable that those actions were prohibited because they were bad for us, or enjoined because advantageous in their nature, all things considered. This persuasion, Divine Providence, or some guardian angel, and perhaps a concurrence of favourable circumstances co-operating, preserved me from all immorality, or gross and *voluntary* injustice, to which my want of religion was calculated to expose me, in the dangerous period of youth, and in the hazardous situations in which I sometimes found myself, among strangers, and at a distance from the eye and admonitions of my father. I may say *voluntary*, because the errors into which I had fallen, had been, in a manner, the forced result either of my own inexperience, or the dishonesty of others. Thus, before I entered on my own new career, I had imbibed solid principles, and a character of probity. I knew their value; and I made a solemn engagement with myself never to depart from them.

I had not long returned from Burlington before our printing materials arrived from London. I settled my accounts with Keimer, and quitted him, with his own consent, before he had any knowledge of our plan. We found a house to let near the market. We took it; and, to render the rent less burdensome (it was then twenty-four pounds a year, but I have since known it let for seventy), we admitted Thomas Godfrey, a glazier, with his family, who eased us of a considerable part of it; and with him we agreed to board.

We had no sooner unpacked our letters, and put our press in order, than a person of my acquaintance, George House, brought us a countryman, whom he had met in the streets inquiring for a printer. Our money was almost exhausted by the number of things we had been obliged to procure. The five shillings we *received from* this countryman, the first fruits of

stamp at Philadelphia. He was a m
declined in years, had an air of wisdo
grave manner of speaking. His nam
Mickle. I knew him not; but he stopp
my door, and asked me if I was the yo
had lately opened a new printing-hou
answering in the affirmative, he said th
sorry for me, as it was an expensive un
the money that had been laid out upo
lost, Philadelphia being a place falling
inhabitants having all, or nearly all
obliged to call together their creditors.
from undoubted fact, the circumstance
lead us to suppose the contrary, such
ings, and the advanced price of rent,
appearances, which, in reality, contri
the general ruin; and he gave me so l
misfortunes, actually existing, or whic
take place, that he left me almost in a
Had I known this man before I ente
should doubtless never have ventured.
however, to live in this place of decay
in the same style, refusing for many
house, because all was going to wre
satisfaction to see hin

rality, politics, or philosophy, which were to be discussed by the society; and to read, once in three months, an essay of his own composition, on whatever subject he pleased. Our debates were under the direction of a president, and were to be dictated only by a sincere desire of truth; the pleasure of disputing, and the vanity of triumph, having no share in the business; and in order to prevent undue warmth, every expression which implied obstinate adherence to an opinion, and all direct contradiction, were prohibited, under small pecuniary penalties.

The first members of our club were Joseph Breintnal, whose occupation was that of a scrivener. He was a middle-aged man, of a good natural disposition, strongly attached to his friends, a great lover of poetry, reading every thing that came in his way, and writing tolerably well, ingenious in many little trifles, and of an agreeable conversation.

Thomas Godfrey, a skilful, though self-taught mathematician, and who was afterwards the inventor of what now goes by the name of Hadley's dial; but he had little knowledge out of his own line, and was insupportable in company, always requiring, like the majority of mathematicians that have fallen in my way, an unusual precision in every thing that is said, continually contradicting, or making trifling distinctions; a sure way of defeating all the ends of conversation. He very soon left us.

Nicholas Scull, a surveyor, and who became, afterwards, surveyor-general. He was fond of books, and wrote verses.

William Parsons, brought up to the trade of a shoemaker, but who, having a taste for reading, had acquired a profound knowledge of mathematics. He first studied them with a view to astrology, and was afterwards the first to laugh at his folly. He also became surveyor-general.

William Mawgride, a joiner, and very excellent mechanic; and in other respects a man of solid understanding.

Hugh Meredith, Stephen Potts, and George Webb, of whom I have already spoken.

Robert Grace, a young man of fortune; generous,

club continued to exist almost as l

This was the best school for polit
that then existed in the province;
which were read once a week pr
cussion, induced us to peruse atten
as were written upon the subjects
might be able to speak upon them
We thus acquired the habit of conv
ably; every object being discussed c
regulations, and in a manner to pr
gust. To this circumstance may l
long duration of the club; which I sl
occasion to mention as I proceed.

I have introduced it here, as being
on which I had to count for success
every member exerting himself to
us. Breintnal, among others, obtain
part of the quakers, the printing o
their history; of which the rest wa
Keimer. Our execution of this w
means, masterly; as the price was v
in folio, upon *pro patria* paper, and i
with heavy notes, in the smallest ty
a sheet a-day, and Meredith put it

This unwearied industry, which was perceived by our neighbours, began to acquire us reputation and credit. I learned, among other things, that our new printing-house, being the subject of conversation at a club of merchants, who met every evening, it was the general opinion that it would fail; there being already two printing-houses in the town, Keimer's and Bradford's. But Dr. Bard, whom you and I had occasion to see, many years after, at his native town of St. Andrew's, in Scotland, was of a different opinion. "The industry of this Franklin (said he) is superior to any thing of the kind I have ever witnessed. I see him still at work when I return from the club at night, and he is at it again in the morning before his neighbours are out of bed." This account struck the rest of the assembly, and, shortly after, one of its members came to our house, and offered to supply us with articles of stationary; but we wished not, as yet, to embarrass ourselves with keeping a shop. It is not for the sake of applause that I enter so freely into the particulars of my industry, but that such of my descendants as shall read these memoirs may know the use of this virtue, by seeing, in the recital of my life, the effects it operated in my favour.

George Webb, having found a friend who lent him the necessary sum to buy out his time of Keimer, came one day to offer himself to us as a journeyman. We could not employ him immediately; but I foolishly told him, under the rose, that I intended shortly to publish a new periodical paper, and that we should then have work for him. My hopes of success, which I imparted to him, were founded on the circumstance, that the only paper we had in Philadelphia at that time, and which Bradford printed, was a paltry thing, miserably conducted, in no respect amusing, and which yet was profitable. I consequently supposed that a good work of this kind could not fail of success. Webb betrayed my secret to Keimer, who, to prevent me, immediately published the *prospectus* of a paper, that he intended to institute himself, and in which Webb was to be engaged.

I was exasperated at this proceeding, and, with a view to counteract them, not being able at present to

such an engagement; I therefore ins
upon myself, and in a few years it pro
profitable to me.

I perceive that I am apt to speak in
son, though our partnership still conti
perhaps, because, in fact, the whole busi
upon me. Meredith was no compositor
indifferent pressman; and it was rarel
stained from hard drinking. My frien
to see me connected with him; but I co
rive from it the utmost advantage the c

Our first number produced no other ef
other paper which had appeared in the
to type and printing; but some remarks
liar style of writing, upon the disputo
prevailed between Governor Burnet an
chusetts Assembly, struck some persons
di..rity, caused the paper and its editor
of, and, in a few weeks, induced them t
subscribers. Many others followed the
and our subscription continued to inc
was one of the first good effects of the
taken to learn to put my ideas on pape
this farther advantage from it, that the
of the place, seeing in the author of thi

Assembly to the Governor, had been executed by him in a very coarse and incorrect manner. We reprinted it with accuracy and neatness, and sent a copy to every member. They perceived the difference; and it so strengthened the influence of our friends in the Assembly, that we were nominated its printer for the following year.

Among these friends, I ought not to forget one member in particular, Mr. Hamilton, whom I have mentioned in a former part of my narrative, and who was now returned from England. He warmly interested himself for me on this occasion, as he did likewise on many others afterwards; having continued his kindness to me till his death.

About this period Mr. Vernon reminded me of the debt I owed him, but without pressing me for payment. I wrote a handsome letter on the occasion, begging him to wait a little longer, to which he consented; and as soon as I was able, I paid him principal and interest, with many expressions of gratitude; so that this error of my life was, in a manner, atoned for.

But another trouble now happened to me, which I had not the smallest reason to expect. Meredith's father, who, according to our agreement, was to defray the whole expense of our printing materials, had only paid a hundred pounds. Another hundred was still due, and the merchant being tired of waiting, commenced a suit against us. We bailed the action, but with the melancholy prospect, that, if the money was not forthcoming at the time fixed, the affair would come to issue, judgment be put in execution, our delightful hopes be annihilated, and ourselves entirely ruined; as the type and press must be sold, perhaps at half their value, to pay the debt.

In this distress, two real friends, whose generous conduct I have never forgotten, and never shall forget, while I retain the remembrance of any thing, came to me separately, without the knowledge of each other, and without my having applied to either of them. Each offered whatever money might be necessary to take the business into my own hands, if the thing was practicable, as they did not like I

.tions to them for what they
ere still disposed to do, if they had the power,
the end, should they fail in their engagement
ur partnership be dissolved, I should then think
elf at liberty to accept the kindness of my fri
Things remained for some time in this state.
ast, I said one day to my partner, "Your fat
perhaps dissatisfied with your having a share on
the business, and is unwilling to do for two, wha
would do for you alone. Tell me frankly, if th
the case, and I will resign the whole to you, an
for myself as well as I can." "No, (said he) m
ther has really been disappointed in his hopes;
not able to pay, and I wish to put him to no fi
inconvenience. I see that I am not at all calc
for a printer; I was educated as a farmer, and
absurd in me to come here, at thirty years of ag
bind myself apprentice to a new trade. Many
countrymen are going to settle in North Ca
where the soil is exceedingly favourable. I am
ed to go with them, and to resume my forme
pation. You will, doubtless, find friends wl
assist you. If you will take upon yourself th
of the partnership, return my father the
he has advanced, pay my little personal
and a new saddl

was well versed in these matters. I published them in my newspaper, and they were received with great satisfaction.

As soon as he was gone, I applied to my two friends, and not wishing to give a disobliging preference to either of them, I accepted from each, half what he had offered me, and which it was necessary I should have. I paid the partnership debts, and continued the business on my own account; taking care to inform the public, by advertisement, of the partnership being dissolved. This was, I think, in the year 1729, or thereabout.

Nearly at the same period, the people demanded a new emission of paper-money; the existing and only one that had taken place in the province, and which amounted to fifteen thousand pounds, being soon to expire. The wealthy inhabitants, prejudiced against every sort of paper currency, from the fear of its depreciation, of which there had been an instance in the province of New-England, to the injury of its holders, strongly opposed this measure. We had discussed this affair in our Junto, in which I was on the side of the new emission; convinced that the first small sum, fabricated in 1723, had done much good in the province, by favouring commerce, industry, and population, since all the houses were now inhabited, and many others building; whereas I remembered to have seen when I first paraded the streets of Philadelphia eating my roll, the majority of those in Walnut-street, Second-street, Fourth-street, as well as a great number in Chesnut and other streets, with papers on them, signifying that they were to be let; which made me think, at the time, that the inhabitants of the town were deserting it one after another.

Our debates made me so fully master of the subject, that I wrote and published an anonymous pamplet, entitled, "An Inquiry into the Nature and Necessity of Paper Currency." It was very well received by the lower and middling classes of people; but it displeased the opulent, as it increased the clamour in favour of the new emission. Having, however, no writer among them capable of answering it, their opposition *became less* violent; and there being in the

ıyself to write.

Time and experience so fully demonstra
ıtility of paper currency, that it never after
rienced any considerable opposition; so that it
amounted to 55,000*l.* and in the year 1739 to 80
It has since risen, during the last war, to 350
trade, buildings, and population, having in the
val continually increased: but I am now conv
that there are limits beyond which paper money
be prejudicial.

I soon after obtained, by the influence of my
Hamilton, the printing of the Newcastle paper n
another profitable work, as I then thought it
things appearing great to persons of moderate fo
and they were really great to me, as proving g
couragements. He also procured me the prin
the laws and votes of that government, whic
tained as long as I continued in the business.

I now opened a small stationer's shop.
bonds and agreements of all kinds, drawn
more accurate form than had yet been see
part of the world; a work in which I was as
my friend Breintnal. I had also paper, pe
nasteboard, books, &c. One Whitemash,
[illegible] whom I had known in Lon
[illegible] and he

by stealth, and occasioned no scandal; and, to show that I did not think myself above my profession, I conveyed home sometimes in a wheelbarrow, the paper I had purchased at the warehouses.

I thus obtained the reputation of being an industrious young man, and very punctual in his payments. The merchants, who imported articles of stationary, solicited my custom; others offered to furnish me with books, and my little trade went on prosperously.

Meanwhile, the credit and business of Keimer diminishing every day, he was at last forced to sell his stock to satisfy his creditors; and he betook himself to Barbadoes, where he lived for some time in a very impoverished state. His apprentice, David Harry, whom I had instructed while I worked with Keimer, having bought his materials, succeeded him in the business. I was apprehensive, at first, of finding in Harry a powerful competitor, as he was allied to an opulent and respectable family; I therefore proposed a partnership, which, happily for me, he rejected with disdain. He was extremely proud, thought himself a fine gentleman, lived extravagantly, and pursued amusements which suffered him to be scarcely ever at home; of consequence he became in debt, neglected his business, and business neglected him. Finding in a short time, nothing to do in the country he followed Keimer to Barbadoes, carrying his printing materials with him. There the apprentice employed his old master as a journeyman. They were continually quarrelling; and Harry, still getting in debt, was obliged, at last, to sell his press and types, and return to his old occupation of husbandry in Pennsylvania. The person who purchased them, employed Keimer to manage the business: but he died a few years after

I had now at Philadelphia, no competitor but Bradford, who, being in easy circumstances, did not engage in the printing of books, except now and then as workmen chanced to offer themselves; and was not anxious to extend his trade. He had, however, one advantage over me, as he had the direction of the post-office, and was, of consequence, supposed to have better opportunities of obtaining news. His paper was also supposed to be more advantageous to adver-

stamm, Bradford being so illiberal as
This treatment of his excited my n
my disgust was so rooted, that, whe
succeeded him in the post-office, I toc
copying his example.

I had hitherto continued to boar
who, with his wife and children, occu
house, and half of the shop for his busi
indeed, he worked very little, being a
by mathematics. Mrs. Godfrey forr
marrying me to the daughter of one c
She contrived various opportunities o
gether, till she saw that I was captivat
not difficult; the lady in question p
personal merit. The parents encou
dresses, by inviting me continually t
leaving us together, till at last it was t
an explanation. Mrs. Godfrey underto
our little treaty. I gave her to unders
pected to receive with the young lady
ney that would enable me, at least, t
remainder of the debt for my printing
was then, I believe, not more than a hu
She brought me for answer, that the
sum at their disposal

not if they had really changed their minds, or if it was merely an artifice, supposing our affections to be too far engaged for us to desist, and that we should contrive to marry secretly, which would leave them at liberty to give or not, as they pleased. But, suspecting this motive, I never went again to their house.

Some time after, Mrs. Godfrey informed me that they were favourably disposed toward me, and wished me to renew the acquaintance; but I declared a firm resolution never to have any thing more to do with the family. The Godfreys expressed some resentment at this; and as we could no longer agree, they changed their residence, leaving me in possession of the whole house. I then resolved to take no more lodgers. This affair having turned my thoughts to marriage, I looked around me, and made overtures of alliance in other quarters; but I soon found that the profession of a printer, being generally looked upon as a poor trade, I could expect no money with a wife, at least, if I wished her to possess any other charm. Meanwhile, that passion of youth, so difficult to govern, had often drawn me into intrigues with despicable women who fell in my way; which were not unaccompanied with expense and inconvenience, besides the perpetual risk of injuring my health, and catching a disease which I dreaded above all things. But I was fortunate enough to escape this danger.

As a neighbour and old acquaintance, I had kept up a friendly intimacy with the family of Miss Read. Her parents had retained an affection for me from the time of my lodging in their house. I was often invited thither; they consulted me about their affairs, and I had been sometimes serviceable to them. I was touched with the unhappy situation of their daughter, who was almost always melancholy, and continually seeking solitude. I regarded my forgetfulness and inconstancy, during my abode in London, as the principal part of her misfortune, though her mother had the candour to attribute the fault to herself, rather than to me, because, after having prevented our marriage previously to my departure, she had induced her to marry another in my absence.

Our mutual affection revived; but there existed

She proved to me a good and faithfu
and contributed essentially to the succe
We prospered together, and it was our
to render each other happy. Thus I
well as I could, this great error of my y

Our club was not at that time establ
vern. We held our meetings at the
Grace, who appropriated a room to
Some member observed, one day, that
were frequently quoted in the course e
sions, it would be convenient to have t
in the room in which we assembled, i
consulted upon occasion; and that, by t
common library of our individual coll
would have the advantage of using th
the other members, which would near
as if he possessed them all himself.
approved, and we accordingly brought
we thought we could spare, which were
end of the club-room. They amounted
ny as we expected; and though we mad
the use of them, yet some inconvenien
from want of care, it was agreed, after
to discontinue the collection; and each

[The life of Dr. Franklin, as written by himself, so far as it has yet been communicated to the world, breaks off in this place. We understand that it was continued by him somewhat farther, and we hope that the remainder will, at some future period, be communicated to the public. We have no hesitation in supposing, that every reader will find himself greatly interested by the frank simplicity, and the philosophical discernment by which these pages are so eminently characterized. We have therefore thought proper, in order, as much as possible, to relieve his regret, to subjoin the following continuation by one of the Doctor's intimate friends. It is extracted from an American periodical publication, and was written by the late Dr. Stuber,* of Philadelphia.

* Dr. Stuber was born in Philadelphia, of German parents He was sent, at an early age, to the university, where his genius, diligence, and amiable temper, soon acquired him the particular notice and favour of those under whose immediate direction he was placed After passing through the common course of study, in a much shorter time than usual, he left the university, at the age of sixteen, with great reputation. Not long after, he entered on the study of physic; and the zeal with which he pursued it, and the advances he made, gave his friends reason to form the most flattering prospects of his future eminence and usefulness in his profession. As Dr. Stuber's circumstances were very moderate, he did not think this pursuit well calculated to answer them. He therefore relinquished it, after he had obtained a degree in the profession, and qualified himself to practice with credit and success; and immediately entered on the study of the law. While in pursuit of the last-mentioned object, he was prevented, by a premature death, from reaping the fruit of those talents with which he was endowed, and of a youth spent in the ardent and successful pursuit of useful and elegant literature.

from the want of libraries sufficiently
circumstances, the establishment of a
was an important event. This was
by Franklin, about the year 1731.
subscribed forty shillings each, and
ten shillings annually. The number i
In 1742, the company was incorporate
of "The Library Company of Phila
veral other companies were formed
imitation of it. These were all at leng
the Library Company of Philadelphia,
ceived a considerable accession of book
It now contains about eight thousand
subjects, a philosophical apparatus, an
collection of natural and artificial cu
its support, the Company now possess
perty of considerable value. They ha
an elegant house in Fifth-street, in the
will be erected a marble statue of thei
jamin Franklin.

This institution was greatly enco
friends of literature in America and in
The Penn family distinguished them
donations. Amongst the earliest frien
tution must be mentioned the late P

uniformly refused to accept of any compensation. During this time, he communicated to the directors every information relative to improvements and discoveries in the arts, agriculture, and philosophy.

The beneficial influence of this institution was soon evident. The terms of subscription to it were so moderate, that it was accessible to every one. Its advantages were not confined to the opulent. The citizens in the middle and lower walks of life were equally partakers of them. Hence a degree of information was extended amongst all classes of people. The example was soon followed. Libraries were established in various places, and they are now become very numerous in the United States, and particularly in Pennsylvania. It is to be hoped that they will be still more widely extended, and that information will be every where increased. This will be the best security for maintaining our liberties. A nation of well-informed men, who have been taught to know and prize the rights which God has given them, cannot be enslaved. It is in the regions of ignorance that tyranny reigns. It flies before the light of science. Let the citizens of America, then, encourage institutions calculated to diffuse knowledge amongst people; and amongst these, public libraries are not the least important.

In 1732, Franklin began to publish Poor Richard's Almanac. This was remarkable for the numerous and valuable concise maxims which it contained, all tending to exhort to industry and frugality. It was continued for many years. In the almanac for the last year, all the maxims were collected in an address to the reader, entitled, "The Way to Wealth." This has been translated into various languages, and inserted in different publications. It has also been printed on a large sheet, and may be seen framed in many houses in this city. This address contains, perhaps, the best practical system of economy that ever has appeared. It is written in a manner intelligible to every one, and which cannot fail of convincing every reader of the justice and propriety of the remarks and advice which it contains. The demand for this almanac was so great, that ten thousand

... to the general assembly of Penn
was re-elected by succeeding assembl
years, until he was chosen a represen
city of Philadelphia.

Bradford was possessed of some ad
Franklin, by being post-master, thereby
portunity of circulating his paper mor
and thus rendering it a better vehicle
ments, &c. Franklin, in his turn, enjo
vantages, by being appointed post-maste
phia, in 1737. Bradford, while in offi
ungenerously toward Franklin, prevent
as possible, the circulation of his paper.
an opportunity of retaliating; but his
soul prevented him from making use of

The police of Philadelphia had ear
watchmen, whose duty it was to guard
against the midnight robber, and to give a
alarm in case of fire. This duty is, per
the most important that can be committe
of men. The regulations, however, wer
ciently strict. Franklin saw the dangers
this cause, and suggested an alteration, s
the guardians of the night to be more w
the lives and property of

pany in this city. This example was soon foll by others; and there are now numerous fire co nies in the city and liberties. To these may be buted, in a great degree, the activity in extinguis fires, for which the citizens of Philadelphia are tinguished, and the inconsiderable damage which city has sustained from this cause. Some time af Franklin suggested the plan of an association for suring houses from losses by fire, which was adopte and the association continues to this day. The a vantages experienced from it have been great.

From the first establishment of Pennsylvania, spirit of dispute appears to have prevailed among its inhabitants. During the life-time of William Penn the constitution had been three times altered. Afte this period, the history of Pennsylvania is little els than a recital of the quarrels between the proprieta ries, or their governors, and the Assembly. The pro prietaries contended for the right of exempting thei lands from taxes; to which the Assembly would by no means consent. This subject of dispute interfere in almost every question, and prevented the most sa lutary laws from being enacted. This, at times, sub jected the people to great inconveniences. In th year 1744, during a war between France and Grea Britain, some French and Indians had made inroad upon the frontier inhabitants of the province, wh were unprovided for such an attack. It became ne cessary that the citizens should arm for their defence Governor Thomas recommended to the Assembly who were then sitting, to pass a militia law. To thi they would agree, only upon condition that he shoul give his assent to certain laws, which appeared t them calculated to promote the interests of the peo ple. As he thought these laws would be injurious t the proprietaries, he refused his assent to them; an the Assembly broke up without passing a militia law The situation of the province was, at this time, truly alarming; exposed to the continual inroad of an ene my, destitute of every means of defence. At thi crisis, Franklin stepped forth, and proposed to meeting of the citizens of Philadelphia, a plan of voluntary association for the defence of the provinc

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nature now occupied the
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ıat day. Of all the branche,
ıy, electricity had been least
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.nd Pliny, and from them, by
year 1600, Gilbert, an Eng-
considerably, the catalogue
e the property of attracting
. Guericke, a burgomaster of
.s the inventor of the air-
· Isaac Newton, added some
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ımunicated some important
:ents to the world. For se-
as entirely neglected, until

and 1742, Desauguliers made a number of experiments, but added little of importance. He first used the terms *conductors* and *electrics per se*. In 1742, several ingenious Germans engaged in this subject; of these the principal were, professor Bose, of Wittemberg, professor Winkler, of Leipsic, Gordon, a Scotch Benedictine monk, professor of philosophy at Erfurt, and Dr. Ludolf, of Berlin. The result of their researches astonished the philosophers of Europe. Their apparatus was large, and by means of it they were enabled to collect large quantities of the electric fluid, and thus to produce phenomena which had been hitherto unobserved. They killed small birds, and set spirits on fire. Their experiments excited the curiosity of other philosophers. Collinson, about the year 1745, sent to the Library Company of Philadelphia, an account of these experiments, together with a tube, and directions how to use it. Franklin, with some of his friends, immediately engaged in a course of experiments; the result of which is well known. He was enabled to make a number of important discoveries, and to propose theories to account for various phenomena, which have been universally adopted, and which bid fair to endure for ages. His observations he communicated, in a series of letters, to his friend Collinson; the first of which is dated March 28, 1747. In these he shows the power of points in drawing and throwing off the electrical matter, which had hitherto escaped the notice of electricians. He also made the grand discovery of a *plus* and *minus*, or of a *positive* and *negative* state of electricity. We give him the honour of this, without hesitation; although the English have claimed it for their countryman, Dr. Watson. Watson's paper is dated January 21, 1748; Franklin's, July 11, 1747; several months prior. Shortly after, Franklin, from his principles of the plus and minus state, explained, in a satisfactory manner, the phenomena of the Leyden phial, first observed by Mr. Cuneus, or by professor Muschenbroeck, of Leyden, which had much perplexed philosophers. He showed clearly, that the bottle, when charged, contained no more electricity than before, but that as much was taken from one

a new coating, the shock migh
the year 1749, he first suggested
the phenomena of thundergust
borealis, upon electrical princi
many particulars in which ligh
agree; and he adduces many
from facts, in support of his po
year he conceived the astonishi
idea of ascertaining the truth o
tually drawing down the lightnin
pointed iron rods raised into the
Even in this uncertain state, his
to mankind displays itself in a po
mitting the identity of electricity
knowing the power of points in rep
with electricity, and in conductin
and imperceptibly, he suggested t
houses, ships, &c. from being dar
by erecting pointed rods, that sh
above the most elevated part, and
into the ground or the water. Th
concluded, would be either to prev
pelling the cloud beyond the stril
drawing off the electrical fire whi

would, he conceived, impart to it a portion of their electricity, which would be rendered evident to the senses by sparks being emitted, when a key, the knuckle, or other conductor, was presented to it. Philadelphia at this time afforded no opportunity of trying an experiment of this kind. While Franklin was waiting for the erection of a spire, it occurred to him that he might have more ready access to the region of clouds by means of a common kite. He prepared one by fastening two cross sticks to a silk handkerchief, which would not suffer so much from the rain as paper. To the upright stick was affixed an iron point. The string was, as usual, of hemp, except the lower end, which was silk. Where the hempen string terminated, a key was fastened. With this apparatus, on the appearance of a thundergust approaching, he went out into the commons, accompanied by his son, to whom alone he communicated his intentions, well knowing the ridicule which, too generally for the interest of science, awaits unsuccessful experiments in philosophy. He placed himself under a shade, to avoid the rain—his kite was raised—a thunder-cloud passed over it—no sign of electricity appeared. He almost despaired of success, when, suddenly, he observed the loose fibres of his string to move towards an erect position. He now presented his knuckle to the key, and received a strong spark. How exquisite must his sensations have been at this moment! On this experiment depended the fate of his theory. If he succeeded, his name would rank high among those who had improved science; if he failed, he must inevitably be subjected to the derision of mankind, or, what is worse, their pity, as a well-meaning man, but a weak, silly projector. The anxiety with which he looked for the result of his experiment, may be easily conceived. Doubts and despair had begun to prevail, when the fact was ascertained in so clear a manner, that even the most incredulous could no longer withhold their assent. Repeated sparks were drawn from the key, a phial was charged, a shock given, and all the experiments made which are usually performed with electricity.

About a month before this period, some ingenious Frenchman had completed the discovery in the man-

periments and Obser...
ladelphia, in America." They ...
idity, and soon translated into different langu...
very incorrect French translation fell into the han
the celebrated Buffon, who, notwithstanding t
isadvantages under which the work laboured, w
much pleased with it, and repeated the experimer
with success. He prevailed on his friend, M. D'A
bard, to give his countrymen a more correct transl
tion of the works of the American electrician. Th
contributed much towards spreading a knowledge
Franklin's principles in France. The king, Lou
XV. hearing of these experiments, expressed a wi
to be a spectator of them. A course of experimer
was given at the seat of the Duc D'Ayen, at St. Ge
main, by M. de Lor. The applauses which the Ki
bestowed upon Franklin, excited in Buffon, D'Alibar
and De Lor, an earnest desire of ascertaining the tr
of his theory of thundergust. Buffon erected his
paratus on the tower of Montbar, M. D'Alibard
Mary-la-ville, and De Lor at his house in the *Es*
pade at Paris, some of the highest ground in that c
tal. D'Alibard's machine first showed signs of
tricity. On the 10th of May, 1752, a thunder-
... it, in the absence of M. D'Alibard, r
... drawn from it by Coi

discovery. Professor Richman bade fair to add much to the stock of knowledge on this subject, when an unfortunate flash from his conductor put a period to his existence. The friends of science will long remember with regret, the amiable martyr to electricity.

By these experiments Franklin's theory was established in the most convincing manner. When the truth of it could no longer be doubted, envy and vanity endeavoured to detract from its merit. That an American, an inhabitant of the obscure city of Philadelphia, the name of which was hardly known, should be able to make discoveries, and to frame theories, which had escaped the notice of the enlightened philosophers of Europe, was too mortifying to be admitted. He must certainly have taken the idea from some one else. An American, a being of an inferior order, make discoveries!—Impossible. It was said, that the Abbe Nollet, 1748, had suggested the idea of the similarity of lightning and electricity, in his *Lecons de Physique*. It is true that the Abbe mentions the idea, but he throws it out as a bare conjecture, and proposes no mode of ascertaining the truth of it. He himself acknowledges, that Franklin first entertained the bold thought of bringing lightning from the heavens, by means of pointed rods fixed in the air. The similarity of lightning and electricity is so strong, that we need not be surprised at notice being taken of it, as soon as electrical phenomena became familiar. We find it mentioned by Dr. Wall and Mr. Grey, while the science was in its infancy. But the honour of forming a regular theory of thundergusts, of suggesting a mode of determining the truth of it by experiments, and of putting these experiments in practice, and thus establishing the theory upon a firm and solid basis, is incontestibly due to Franklin. D'Alibard, who made the first experiments in France, says, that he only followed the tract which Franklin had pointed out.

It has been of late asserted, that the honour of completing the experiment with the electrical kite, does not belong to Franklin. Some late English paragraphs have attributed it to some Frenchman, whose name they do not mention; and the Abbè Bertholon gives it to *M. de Romas, assessor* to the presideal of Nerac

covery, and when it was kn
in Europe.

Besides these great princi
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have contributed greatly tow
of knowledge to a science.
ley communicated to him a
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entertained the same idea;
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right: and that the *vitreous* a
Du Faye were nothing more t
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the glass globe charged *posi*
quantity of electricity on the
the globe of sulphur diminish
or charged *negatively*. These
vations opened a new field
which electricians

into the clouds, and not the clouds that strike into the earth." The letter containing these observations is dated in September, 1753; and yet the discovery of ascending thunder has been said to be of a modern date, and has been attributed to the Abbé Bertholon, who published his memoir on the subject in 1776.

Franklin's letters have been translated into most of the European languages, and into Latin. In proportion as they have become known, his principles have been adopted. Some opposition was made to his theories, particularly by the Abbé Nollet, who was, however but feebly supported, while the first philosophers in Europe stepped forth in defence of Franklin's principles, amongst whom D'Alibard and Beccaria were the most distinguished. The opposition has gradually ceased, and the Franklinian system is now universally adopted, where science flourishes.

The important practical use which Franklin made of his discoveries, the securing of houses from injury by lightning, has been already mentioned. Pointed conductors are now very common in America; but prejudice has hitherto prevented their general introduction into Europe, notwithstanding the most undoubted proofs of their utility have been given. But mankind can with difficulty be brought to lay aside established practices, or to adopt new ones. And perhaps we have more reason to be surprised that a practice, however rational, which was proposed about forty ago, should in that time have been adopted in so many places, than that it has not universally prevailed. It is only by degrees that the great body of mankind can be led into new practices, however salutary their tendency. It is now nearly eighty years since inoculation was introduced into Europe and America; and it is so far from being general at present, that it will require one or two centuries to render it so.

In the year 1745, Franklin published an account of his new invented Pennsylvania fire-places; in which he minutely and accurately states the advantages of different kinds of fire-places; and endeavours to show, that the *one which he describes* is to be preferred to any other. This contrivance has given rise

air may enter through cracks—ac
which are colds, tooth-aches, &c.

Although philosophy was a pri
Franklin's pursuit for several years,
self not to this. In the year 1747, h
ber of the general assembly of Pe
burgess for the city of Philadelphia.
subsisted at this time between the
proprietaries; each contending for w
ed to be their just rights. Franklin
rights of man from his infancy, s
himself a steady opponent of the
the proprietaries. He was soon lo
head of the opposition; and to hin
buted many of the spirited replies c
the messages of the governors. H
body was very great. This arose n
rior powers of eloquence; he spok
he never was known to make any
borate harrangue. His speeches o
single sentence, of a well-told story,
was obviously to the point. He n
flowery field of oratory. His man
mild. His style in speaking wa

manently secure, which can only be done by making their value properly known; and this must depend upon increasing and extending information to every class of men. We have already seen that he was the founder of the public library, which contributed greatly towards improving the minds of the citizens. But this was not sufficient. The schools then subsisting were in general of little utility. The teachers were men ill qualified for the important duty which they had undertaken; and, after all, nothing more could be obtained than the rudiments of a common English education. Franklin drew up a plan of an academy, to be erected in the city of Philadelphia, suited to "the state of an infant country;" but in this, as in all his plans, he confined not his views to the present time only. He looked forward to the period when an institution on an enlarged plan would become necessary. With this view, he considered his academy as "a foundation for posterity to erect a seminary of learning more extensive, and suitable to future circumstances." In pursuance of this plan, the constitutions were drawn up and signed on the 13th of November, 1749. In these, twenty-four of the most respectable citizens of Philadelphia were named as trustees. In the choice of these, and in the formation of his plan, Franklin is said to have consulted chiefly with Thomas Hopkinson, Esq. the Rev. Richard Peters, then secretary of the province, Tench Francis, Esq. attorney-general, and Dr. Phineas Bond.

The following article shows a spirit of benevolence worthy of imitation; and, for the honour of our city, we hope that it continues to be in force.

"In case of the disability of the *rector*, or any master (established on the foundation by receiving a certain salary) through sickness, or any other natural infirmity, whereby he may be reduced to poverty the trustees shall have power to contribute to his support, in proportion to his distress and merit, and the stock in their hands."

The last clause of the fundamental rule is expressed in language so tender and benevolent, so truly parental, that it will do everlasting honour to the hearts and *heads of the founders*.

through their studies, and a
they shall zealously unite, an
that can be made to promot
whether in business, offices, r
thing for their advantage, in
persons whatsoever, even of e

The constitution being sig
with the names of the gentle
selves as trustees and founde
well approved of by the publ
Philadelphia, that the sum of
per annum, for five years, w
few weeks subscribed for ca
tion; and in the beginning o
(viz. 1750) three of the schools
ly the Latin and Greek schoo
school, and the English scho
an article in the original pla
cating sixty boys and thirty
since called the Charitable S
and, amidst all the difficulties
tees have struggled in respect
still been continued full for
years; so that allowing three

Dr. Franklin; who, notwithstanding the multiplicity of his other engagements and pursuits, at that busy stage of his life, was a constant attendant at the monthly visitations and examinations of the schools, and made it his particular study, by means of his extensive correspondence abroad, to advance the reputation of the seminary, and to draw students and scholars to it from the different parts of America and the West Indies. Through the interposition of his benevolent and learned friend, Peter Collinson of London, upon the application of the trustees, a charter of incorporation, dated July 13, 1753, was obtained from the honourable proprietors of Pennsylvania, Thomas Penn, and Richard Penn, Esqrs. accompanied with a liberal benefaction of five hundred pounds sterling; and Dr. Franklin now began in good earnest to please himself with the hopes of a speedy accomplishment of his original design, viz. the establishment of a perfect institution, upon the plan of the European colleges and universities; for which his academy was intended as a nursery or foundation. To elucidate this fact, is a matter of considerable importance in respect to the memory and character of Dr. Franklin as a philosopher, and as the friend and patron of learning and science; for, notwithstanding what is expressly declared by him in the preamble to the constitutions, viz. that the academy was begun for "teaching the Latin and Greek languages, with all useful branches of the arts and sciences, suitable to the state of an infant country, and laying a foundation for posterity to erect a seminary of learning more extensive, and suitable to their future circumstances;" yet it has been suggested of late, as upon Dr. Franklin's authority, that the Latin and Greek, or the dead languages, are an incumbrance upon a scheme of liberal education, and that the ingrafting or founding a college, or more extensive seminary, upon his academy, was without his approbation or agency, and gave him discontent. If the reverse of this does not already appear from what has been quoted above, the following letters will put the matter beyond dispute.

the head of both, [illegible]
period of thirty-six years, to presid
guished reputation.

From these letters also, the state of
at that time will be seen.

" *Philad. Apr*

" SIR,

" I received your favour of the 11th
your new piece* on *Education*, which
fully peruse, and give you my sentimen
desire, by next post.

" I believe the young gentlemen, yo
be entertained and instructed here, i
and philosophy, to satisfaction. Mr
was educated at Glasgow) has been lo
to teach the latter, and Mr. Grew‡ the
think their pupils make great progre
has the care of the Latin and Greek s
has now three good assistants,‖ he c
ford some hours every day for the ins
who are engaged in higher studies.
tical school is pretty well furnished w
The English library is a good one:
[illegible] to it a middling apparatus

rica, will shortly be opened; so that neither books nor instruments will be wanting; and as we are determined always to give good salaries, we have reason to believe we may have always an opportunity of choosing good masters; upon which, indeed, the success of the whole depends. We are obliged to you for your kind offers in this respect, and when you are settled in England, we may occasionally make use of your friendship and judgment

"If it suits your convenience to visit Philadelphia before you return to Europe, I shall be extremely glad to see and converse with you here, as well as to correspond with you after your settlement in England; for an acquaintance and communication with men of learning, virtue, and public spirit, is one of my greatest enjoyments.

"I do not know whether you ever happened to see the first proposals I made for erecting this academy. I send them inclosed. They had (however imperfect) the desired success, being followed by a subscription of four thousand pounds, towards carrying them into execution. And as we are fond of receiving advice, and are daily improving by experience, I am in hopes we shall, in a few years, see a *perfect institution.*

"I am, very respectfully, &c.
"B. FRANKLIN.

"*Mr. W. Smith, Long Island.*"

"*Philad. May*, 3. 1753.

"SIR,

"Mr. Peters has just now been with me, and we have compared notes on your new piece. We find nothing in the scheme of education, however excellent, but what is, in our opinion very practicable. The great difficulty will be to find the Aratus,* and other suitable persons, to carry it into execution:

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* The name given to the principal or head of the ideal college, the system of education in which hath nevertheless been nearly realized, or followed *as a model*, in the college and academy of Philadelphia and some other American seminaries for several years past

omitted not only the quo
which you are now justly
expressions of resentment
in pages 65 and 79. In su
tory is obtained by neglect,

"Mr. Allen has been ou
but before he went he dir
six copies of your piece.
He proposed to have writte
he expects so soon to have t
here. He desires me to pre
pliments to you, and to assu
very welcome to him. I sha
depend on my doing all in
visit to Philadelphia agreeab

"*Mr. Smith.*

"DEAR SIR,

"Having written you fully
little to add. Matters relat
main in *statu quo*.

Thus, unless the proprietors (of the province) shall think fit to put the finishing hand to our institution, it must, I fear, wait some few years longer before it can arrive at that state of perfection, which to me it seems now capable of; and all the pleasure I promised myself in seeing you settled among us, vanishes into smoke.

"But good Mr. Collinson writes me word, that no endeavours of his shall be wanting; and he hopes with the archbishop's assistance, to be able to prevail with our proprietors.* I pray God grant them success.

"My son presents his affectionate regards, with,

"Dear Sir, yours, &c.

"B. FRANKLIN.

"P. S. I have not been favoured with a line from you since your arrival in England."

"*Philad. April* 18, 1754.

"DEAR SIR,

"I have had but one letter from you since your arrival in England, which was but a short one, *via* Boston, dated October 18th, acquainting me that you had written largely by Captain Davis.—Davis was lost, and with him your letters, to my great disappointment.—Mesnard and Gibbon have since arrived here, and I hear nothing from you. My comfort is, an imagination that you only omit writing because you are coming, and propose to tell me every thing *viva voce*. So not knowing whether this letter will reach you, and hoping either to see or hear from you by the Myrtilla, Captain Budden's ship, which is daily expected; I only add, that I am, with great esteem and affection,

"Yours, &c.

"*Mr. Smith.* "B. FRANKLIN."

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* Upon the application of Archbishop Herring and P. Collinson, Esqr. at Dr. Franklin's request (aided by the letters of Mr Allan and Mr Peters,) the honourable Thomas Penn, Esqr. subscribed an annuitum, and afterwards gave at least 500l. to the founding or endowing the college upon the academy.

tional charter, dated May 27th, 1755.

Thus far we thought it proper to exhib view Dr. Franklin's services in the found establishment of this seminary. He soon a embarked for England, in the public serv country; and having been generally abroad, in the like service, for the greate the remainder of his life (as will appear i seqnent account of the same) he had bu portunities of taking any further active p affairs of the seminary, until his final ret year 1785, when he found its charters vio his ancient colleagues, the original founders of their trust by an act of the legislature though his own name had been inserted an new trustees, yet he declined to take his s them, or any concern in the management c fairs, till the institution was restored by original owners. He then assembled hi leagues at his own house, and being chosen sident, all their future meetings, were at h held there, till within a few months of his de with reluctance, and at their desire, lest he too much injured by his attention to their

should prove abortive, he sought the aid of Franklin, who readily engaged in the business, both by using his influence with his friends, and by stating the advantageous influence of the proposed institution in his paper. These efforts were attended with success. Considerable sums were subscribed; but they were still short of what was necessary. Franklin now made another exertion. He applied to the Assembly; and, after some opposition, obtained leave to bring in a bill, specifying, that as soon as two thousand pounds were subscribed, the same sum should be drawn from the treasury by the speaker's warrant, to be applied to the purposes of the institution. The opposition, as the sum was granted upon a contingency, which they supposed would never take place, were silent, and the bill passed. The friends of the plan now redoubled their efforts, to obtain subscriptions to the amount stated in the bill, and were soon successful. This was the foundation of the Pennsylvania Hospital, which, with the Bettering House and Dispensary, bears ample testimony of the humanity of the citizens of Philadelphia.

Dr. Franklin had conducted himself so well in the office of post-master, and had shown himself to be so well acquainted with the business of that department, that it was thought expedient to raise him to a more dignified station. In 1753 he was appointed deputy post-master general for the British colonies. The profits arising from the postage of letters formed no inconsiderable part of the revenue, which the crown of Great Britain derived from these colonies. In the hands of Franklin, it is said, that the post-office in America yielded annually thrice as much as that of Ireland.

The American colonies were much exposed to depredations on their frontiers by the Indians; and more particularly, whenever a war took place between France and England. The colonies, individually, were either too weak to take efficient measures for their own defence, or they were unwilling to take upon themselves the whole burden of erecting forts and maintaining garrisons, whilst their neighbours, who partook equally with themselves of the advan-

ablish this, in the year
Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island
sey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, met
Dr. Franklin attended here, as a commiss
Pennsylvania, and produced a plan, whic
place of meeting, has been usually tern
Albany Plan of Union!" This proposed,
cation should be made for an act of par
establish in the colonies a general governr
administered by a president-general, ap
the crown, and by a grand council, co
members, chosen by the representatives o
ent colonies; their number to be in direct
to the sums paid by each colony into
treasury, with this restriction, that no co
have more than seven, nor less than two
tives. The whole executive authority
ted to the president-general. The pow
tion was lodged in the grand council a
dent-general jointly; his consent being
sary to passing a bill into a law. The
in the president and council was, to de
peace, and to conclude treaties with
tions; to regulate trade with, and to m
lands from them, either in t

officers of the land or sea service were to be nominated by the president-general, and approved of by the general council; civil officers were to be nominated by the council, and approved of by the president. Such are the outlines of the plan proposed, for the consideration of the congress, by Dr. Franklin. After several days discussion, it was unanimously agreed to by the commissioners, a copy transmitted to each assembly, and one to the king's council. The fate of it was singular. It was disapproved of by the ministry of Great Britain, because it gave too much power to the representatives of the people; and it was rejected by every assembly, as giving to the president-general, the representative of the crown, an influence greater than appeared to them proper, in a plan of government intended for freemen. Perhaps this rejection, on both sides, is the strongest proof that could be adduced of the excellence of it, as suited to the situation of America and Great Britain at that time. It appears to have steered exactly in the middle, between the opposite interests of both.

Whether the adoption of this plan would have prevented the separation of America from Great Britain, is a question which might afford much room for speculation. It may be said, that, by enabling the colonies to defend themselves, it would have removed the pretext upon which the stamp-act, tea-act, and other acts of the British parliament, were passed; which excited a spirit of opposition, and laid the foundation for the separation of the two countries. But, on the other hand, it must be admitted, that the restriction laid by Great Britain upon our commerce, obliging us to sell our produce to her citizens only, and to take from them various articles, of which, as our manufacturers were discouraged, we stood in need, at a price greater than that for which they could have been obtained from other nations, must inevitably produce dissatisfaction, even though no duties were imposed by the parliament; a circumstance which might still have taken place. Besides, as the president-general was to be appointed by the crown, he must, of necessity, be devoted to its views, and would, *therefore*, refuse to assent to any laws, now-

Britain: while the colonies continued weai would be obliged to submit, and as soon as t quired strength, they would become more ur their demands, until, at length, they would sl the yoke, and declare themselves independen

Whilst the French were in possession of C their trade with the natives extended very fa to the back of the British settlements. The disposed, from time to time, to establish posts the territory, which the English claimed as the Independent of the injury to the fur trade, whi considerable, the colonies suffered this further venience, that the Indians were frequently ins to commit depredations on their frontiers. year 1753, encroachments were made upon th daries of Virginia. Remonstrances had no eff the ensuing year, a body of men were sent ou the command of Mr. Washington, who, thoug young man, had by his conduct in the precedir shown himself worthy of such an important t Whilst marching to take possession of the pos junction of the Allegany and Monongahela, informed that the French had already erecte there. A detachment of their men marched

ty occurred, which had nearly prevented the expedition. This was the want of waggons. Franklin now stepped forward, and with the assistance of his son, in a little time procured a hundred and fifty. Braddock unfortunately fell into an ambuscade, and perished, with a number of his men. Washington, who had accompanied him as an aid-de-camp, and had warned him, in vain of his danger, now displayed great military talents in affecting a retreat of the remains of the army, and in forming a junction with the rear, under colonel Dunbar, upon whom the chief command now devolved. With some difficulty they brought their little body to a place of safety, but they found it necessary to destroy their waggons and baggage, to prevent them from falling into the hands of the enemy. For the waggons which he had furnished, Franklin had given bonds to a large amount. The owners declared their intention of obliging him to make a restitution of their property. Had they put their threats in execution, ruin must inevitably have been the consequence. Governor Shirley, finding that he had incurred those debts for the service of government, made arrangements to have them discharged, and released Franklin from his disagreeable situation.

The alarm spread through the colonies, after the defeat of Braddock, was very great. Preparations to arm were every where made. In Pennsylvania, the prevalence of the quaker interest prevented the adoption of any system of defence, which would compel the citizens to bear arms. Franklin introduced into the Assembly a bill for organising a militia, by which every man was allowed to take arms or not, as to him should appear fit. The quakers, being thus left at liberty, suffered the bill to pass: for although their principles would not suffer them to fight, they had no objection to their neighbours fighting for them. In consequence of this act a very respectable militia was formed. The sense of impending danger infused a military spirit in all, whose religious tenets were not opposed to war. Franklin was appointed colonel of a regiment in Philadelphia, which consisted of 1200 men.

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the inhabitants had been previously e
remained here for some time, in order t
pletely to discharge the trust co[illegible]it
Some business of importance at length
presence necessar[illegible] in the [illegible] an
to [illegible]

The defence of her colonies was a
to Great Britain. The most effectual n
ing this was, to put arms into the han
bitants, and to teach them their use.
wished not that the Americans shoul
quainted with their own strength. S
hensive, that, as soon as this period
would no longer submit to that mon
trade, which to them was highly inj
tremely advantageous to the mothe
comparison with the profits of this,
maintaining armies and fleets to de
trifling. She fought to keep them d
her for protection; the best plan whi
vised for retaining them in peacea
The least appearance of a military s
fore to be guarded against; and altho

tates, but the governors constantly refused their assent to this measure, without which no bill could pass into a law. Enraged at the obstinacy, and what they conceived to be unjust proceedings of their opponents, the Assembly at length determined to apply to the mother-country for relief. A petition was addressed to the king, in council, stating the inconveniences under which the inhabitants laboured, from the attention of the proprietaries to their private interests, to the neglect of the general welfare of the community, and praying for redress. Franklin was appointed to present this address, as agent for the province of Pennsylvania, and departed from America in June, 1757. In conformity to the instructions which he had received from the legislature, he held a conference with the proprietaries who then resided in England, and endeavoured to prevail upon them to give up the long-contested point. Finding that they would hearken to no terms of accommodation, he laid his petition before the council. During this time Governor Denny assented to a law imposing a tax, in which no discrimination was made in favour of the estates of the Penn family. They, alarmed at this intelligence, and Franklin's exertions, used their utmost endeavours to prevent the royal sanction being given to this law, which they represented as highly iniquitous, designed to throw the burden of supporting government upon them, and calculated to produce the most ruinous consequences to them and their posterity. The cause was amply discussed before the privy council. The Penns found here some strenuous advocates; nor were there wanting some who warmly espoused the side of the people. After some time spent in debate, a proposal was made, that Franklin should solemnly engage, that the assessment of the tax should be so made, as that the proprietary estates should pay no more than a due proportion. This he agreed to perform, the Penn family withdrew their opposition, and tranquillity was thus once more restored to the province.

The mode in which this dispute was terminated, is a striking proof of the high opinion entertained of Franklin's integrity and honour, even by those who

After ...
Franklin remained at the ...
agent for the province of Pennsylvai
sive knowledge which he possessed c
the colonies, and the regard which h
fested for their interests, occasioned
to the same office by the colonies of
Maryland, and Georgia. His condu
tion was such as rendered him still
countrymen.

He had now an opportunity of inc
ciety of those friends, whom his mer
him while at a distance. The regar
entertained for him was rather incr
nal acquaintance. The opposition
made to his dicoveries in philosopl
ed, and the rewards of literary mer
ly conferred upon him. The Roy
don, which had at first refused hi
mission into its transactions, now
nour to rank him amongst its f
scieties of Europe were equally
him a member. The university
Scotland conferred upon him the
Laws. Its example was follow
...h and Oxford

country was highly advantageous to France, it was a grievous inconvenience to the inhabitants of the British colonies. The Indians were almost generally desirous to cultivate the friendship of the French, by whom they were abundantly supplied with arms and ammunition. Whenever a war happened, the Indians were ready to fall upon the frontiers: this they frequently did, even when Great Britain and France were at peace. From these considerations, it appeared to be the interest of Great Britain to gain the possession of Canada. But the importance of such an acquisition was not well understood in England. Franklin about this time published his Canada pamphlet, in which he, in a very forcible manner, pointed out the advantages which would result from the conquest of this province.

An expedition against it was planned, and the command given to General Wolfe. His success is well known. At the treaty in 1762, France ceded Canada to Great Britain, and by her cession of Louisiana, at the same time, relinquished all her possessions on the continent of America.

Although Dr. Franklin was now principally occupied with political pursuits, he found time for philosophical studies. He extended his electrical researches, and made a variety of experiments, particularly on the tourmalin. The singular properties which this stone possesses, of being electrified on one side positively, and on the other negatively, by heat alone, without friction, had been but lately observed.

Some experiments on the cold produced by evaporation, made by Dr. Cullen, had been communicated to Dr. Franklin, by Professor Simpson, of Glasgow. These he repeated, and found, that, by the evaporation of either in the exhausted receiver of an air-pump, so great a degree of cold was produced in a summer's day, that water was converted into ice. This discovery he applied to the solution of a number of phenomena, particularly a singular fact, which philosophers had endeavoured in vain to account for, viz. that the temperature of the human body, when in health, never exceeds 96 degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer, although the atmosphere which sur-

which extended a ...
at Philadelphia nearly four hours be
at Boston.—He endeavoured to acco
supposing that, from heat, some ra
place about the gulph of Mexico, that
north being cooler rushes in, and is su
cooler and denser air still farther nort
a continued current is at length produ

The tone produced by rubbing the l
ing-glass with a wet finger had been g
A Mr. Puckeridge, an Irishman, by pl
a number of glasses of different si
them by partly filling them with wat
to form an instrument capable of pla
was prevented, by an untimely end
his invention to any degree of perfe
death some improvements were mad
The sweetness of the tones induced
make a variety of experiments; a
formed the elegant instrument, wh
the *Armonica.*

In the summer of 1762, he retu
On his passage he observed the s
duced by the agitation of a vess
floating on water. The surface o

was also decreed him for his services during six years.

During his absence he had been annually elected member of the Assembly. On his return to Pennsylvania he again took his seat in this body, and continued a steady defender of the liberties of the people.

In December, 1762, a circumstance which caused great alarm in the province took place. A number of Indians had resided in the county of Lancaster, and conducted themselves uniformly as friends to the white inhabitants. Repeated depredations on the frontiers had exasperated the inhabitants to such a degree, that they determined on revenge upon every Indian. A number of persons, to the amount of about 120, principally inhabitants of Donegal and Peckstang or Paxton township, in the county of York, assembled; and, mounted on horseback, proceeded to the settlement of these harmless and defenceless Indians, whose number had now been reduced to about twenty. The Indians received intelligence of the attack which was intended against them, but disbelieved it. Considering the white people as their friends, they apprehended no danger from them.—When the party arrived at the Indian settlement, they found only some women and children, and a few old men, the rest being absent at work. They murdered all whom they found, and amongst others the chief Shaheas, who had been always distinguished for his friendship to the whites. This bloody deed excited much indignation in the well-disposed part of the community.

The remainder of these unfortunate Indians, who, by absence, had escaped the massacre, were conducted to Lancaster, and lodged in the goal as a place of security. The Governor issued a proclamation, expressing the strongest disapprobation of the action, offering a reward for the discovery of the perpetrators of the deed, and prohibiting all injuries to the peaceable Indians in future. But, notwithstanding this, a party of the same men shortly after marched to Lancaster, broke open the goal, and inhumanly butchered the innocent Indians who had been placed there for security. Another proclam

principles are oppo...
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rioters came to Germantown. The C
for safety to the house of Dr. Frankli
some others, advanced to meet the Pa:
they were called, and had influence e
vail upon them to relinquish their unde
return to their homes.

The disputes between the proprieta
Assembly, which, for a time had su
again revived. The proprietaries wer
with the concessions made in favour
and made great struggles to recover t
exempting their estates from taxatior
had been induced to give up.

In 1763, the Assembly passed a
which the Governor refused to give hi
the Assembly would agree to certa
which he proposed. These consiste
the fines, and in some cases, substi
fines. He wished too, that the of
appointed altogether by himself, ar
ated by the people, as the bill had p
amendments the Assembly conside
...h the spirit of liberty.

Mr. Dickenson, on the subject, was published, with a preface by Dr. Smith, in which great pains were taken to show the impropriety and impolicy of this proceeding. A speech of Mr. Galloway, in reply to Mr. Dickenson, was published, accompanied with a preface by Dr. Franklin; in which he ably opposed the principles laid down in the preface to Mr. Dickenson's speech. This application to the throne produced no effect. The proprietary government was still continued.

At the election for a new Assembly, in the fall of 1764, the friends of the proprietaries made great exertions to exclude those of the adverse party; and they obtained a small majority in the city of Philadelphia. Franklin now lost his seat in the house, which he had held for fourteen years. On the meeting of the Assembly, it appeared that there was still a decided majority of Franklin's friends. He was immediately appointed provincial agent, to the great chagrin of his enemies, who made a solemn protest against his appointment; which was refused admission upon the minutes, as being unprecedented. It was, however, published in the papers, and produced a spirited reply from him, just before his departure for England.

The disturbances produced in America by Mr. Grenville's stamp act, and the opposition made to it, are well known. Under the Marquis of Rockingham's administration, it appeared expedient to endeavour to calm the minds of the colonists; and the repeal of the odious tax was contemplated. Amongst other means of collecting information on the disposition of the people to submit to it, Dr. Franklin was called to the bar of the House of Commons.—The examination which he here underwent was published, and contains a striking proof of the extent and accuracy of his information, and the facility with which he communicated his sentiments. He represented facts in so strong a point of view, that the inexpediency of the act must have appeared clear to every unprejudiced mind. The act, after some opposition, was repealed, about a year after it was en-

nals has, [illegible]
his return to England, he [illegible]
of experiments, all of which tended
observation. These, with an explan
nomenon, he communicated in a let
Sir John Pringle, which is amo
phical pieces.

In the following year he travel
where he met with a no less favoral
he had experienced in Germany.
ed to a number of literary char
king, Louis XV.

Several letters written by Hutch
others, to persons in eminent sta
tain, came into the hands of Dr
contained the most violent inv
leading characters of the state of
and strenuously advised the pro
measures, to compel the peopl
measures of the ministry. Th
the legislature, by whom they
tested copies of them were s
with an address, praying the l
office persons who had rendere
[illegible] to the people, and who h
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privy-council. Dr. Franklin attended as agent for the Assembly; and here a torrent of the most violent and unwarranted abuse was poured upon him by the solicitor-general, Wedderburne, who was engaged as counsel for Oliver and Hutchinson. The petition was declared to be scandalous and vexatious, and the prayer of it refused.

Although the parliament of Great Britain had repealed the stamp-act, it was only upon the principle of expediency. They still insisted upon their right to tax the colonies; and, at the same time the stamp-act was repealed, an act was passed, declaring the right of parliament to bind the colonies in all cases whatsoever. This language was used even by the most strenuous opposers of the stamp-act: and, amongst others, by Mr. Pitt. This right was never recognized by the colonists; but as they flattered themselves that it would not be exercised, they were not very active in remonstrating against it. Had this pretended right been suffered to remain dormant, the colonists would cheerfully have furnished their quota of supplies, in the mode to which they had been accustomed; that is, by the acts of their own assemblies, in consequence of requisitions from the Secretary of State. If this practice had been pursued, such was the disposition of the colonies towards their mother country, that, notwithstanding the disadvantages under which they laboured, from restraints upon their trade, calculated solely for the benefit of the commercial and manufacturing interests of Great Britain, a separation of the two countries might have been a far distant event. The Americans, from their earliest infancy, were taught to venerate a people from whom they were descended; whose language, laws, and manners, were the same as their own. They looked up to them as models of perfection; and, in their prejudiced minds, the most enlightened nations of Europe were considered as almost barbarians, in comparison with Englishmen. The name of an Englishman conveyed to an American the idea of every thing good and great. Such sentiments instilled into them in early life, what but a repetition of unjust treatment could have induced them to entertain the

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ed resolutely bent on reducing
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The advantages which Great I
her colonies was so great, that n
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bable consequences which will
elsewhere, all of which are the off
can revolution, it cannot but a
events of so great moment to th

listened not to his advice. They blindly persevered in their own schemes, and left to the colonists no alternative, but opposition, or unconditional submission. The latter accorded not with the principles of freedom, which they had been taught to revere. To the former they were compelled, though reluctantly, to have recourse.

Dr. Franklin, finding all efforts to restore harmony between Great Britain and her colonies useless, returned to America in the year 1775; just after the commencement of hostilities. The day after his return he was elected by the legislature of Pennsylvania a delegate to congress. Not long after his election a committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Lynch, Mr. Harrison, and himself, to visit the camp at Cambridge, and, in conjunction with the commander-in-chief, to endeavour to convince the troops, whose term of enlistment was about to expire, of the necessity of their continuing in the field, and persevering in the cause of their country.

In the fall of the same year he visited Canada, to endeavour to unite them in the common cause of liberty; but they could not be prevailed upon to oppose the measures of the British governments. M. le Roy, in a letter annexed to Abbé Fauchet's eulogium of Dr. Franklin, states, that the ill success of this negociation was occasioned, in a great degree, by religious animosities, which subsisted between the Canadians and their neighbours, some of whom had at different times, burnt their chapels.

When Lord Howe came to America, in 1776, vested with power to treat with the colonists, a correspondence took place between him and Dr. Franklin on the subject of a reconciliation. Dr. Franklin was afterwards appointed, together with John Adams and Edward Rutledge, to wait upon the commissioners, in order to learn the extent of their powers. These were found to be only to grant pardons upon submission. These were terms which would not be accepted; and the object of the commissioners could not be obtained.

The momentous question of independence shortly *after* brought into view, at a time when we

In this question, Dr. Franklin was de
vour of the measure proposed, and he
ence in bringing others over to his senti

The public mind had been already
this event, by Mr. Paine's celebrated pa
mon Sense. There is good reason to be
Franklin had no inconsiderable share
furnishing materials for this work.

In the convention that assembled at
in 1776, for the purpose of establishin
of government for the state of Penn
Franklin was chosen president. The
tion of this state, which was the result
berations, may be considered as a dige
ciples of government. The single leg
the plural executive, seem to have been
tenets.

In the latter end of 1776, Dr. Fra
pointed to assist at the negociation w
set on foot by Silas Deane, at the co
A conviction of the advantages of a c
tercourse with America, and a desire
the British empire by dismembering it
the French court to listen to proposals

was held in the highest estimation. He was received with the greatest marks of respect by all the literary characters; and this respect was extended amongst all classes of men. His personal influence was hence very considerable. To the effects of this were added those of various performances which he published, tending to establish the credit and character of the United States. To his exertions in this way may, in no small degree, be ascribed the success of the loans negociated in Holland and France, which greatly contributed to bringing the war to a happy conclusion.

The repeated ill-success of their arms, and more particularly the capture of Cornwallis and his army, at length convinced the British nation of the impossibility of reducing the Americans to subjection. The trading interest particularly become clamorous for peace. The ministry were unable longer to oppose their wishes. Provisionl articles of peace were agreed to, and signed at Paris, on the 30th of November, 1782, by Dr. Franklin, Mr. Adams, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Laurens, on the part of the United States; and by Mr. Oswald on the part of Great Britain.—These formed the basis of the definitive treaty, which was concluded the third of September, 1783, and signed by Dr. Franklin, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Jay, on the one part, and by Dr. David Hartley on the other.

On the third of April, 1783, a treaty of amity and commerce, between the United States and Sweden, was concluded at Paris by Dr. Franklin and the Count Von Kreutz.

A similar treaty with Prussia was concluded in 1785, not long before Dr. Franklin's departure from Europe.

Dr. Franklin did not suffer his political pursuits to engross his whole attention. Some of his performances made their appearance in Paris. The object on these were generally the promotion of industry and economy.

In the year 1784, when animal magnetism made great noise in the world, particularly at Paris, it was thought a matter of such importance, that the King

Mesmer was thus interrupt
and fame, and a most insolent attemp
upon the human understanding baffled.

The important ends of Dr. Franklin's
ing completed by the establishment o
Independence, and the infirmities of age
coming upon him, he became desirous
to his native country. Upon applicatio
to be recalled, Mr. Jefferson was appo
ceed him, in 1785. Some time in Sept
same year, Dr. Franklin arrived in Phila
was shortly after chosen a member of
executive council for the city, and s
elected president of the same.

When a convention was called to me
phia, in 1787, for the purpose of givin
to the government of the union, by
amending the articles of confederation
was appointed a delegate from the sta
vania. He signed the constitution w
posed for the union, and gave it the
cal marks of his approbation.

A society for political inquiries,
Franklin was president, was establi
meetings were held at h

was president. The labours of these bodies have been crowned with great success; and they continue to prosecute, with unwearied diligence, the laudable designs for which they were established.

Dr. Franklin's increasing infirmites prevented his regular attendance at the council-chamber; and in 1788, he retired wholly from public life.

His constitution had been a remarkably good one. He had been little subject to disease, except an attack of the gout occasionally, until about the year 1781, when he was first attacked with symptoms of the calculous complaint, which continued during his life. During the intervals of pain from this grievous disease, he spent many cheerful hours, conversing in the most agreeable and instructive manner. His faculties were entirely unimpaired, even to the hour of his death.

His name as president of the abolition society, was signed to the memorial presented to the house of representatives of the United States, on the twelfth of February, 1789, praying them to exert the full extent of power vested in them by the constitution, in discouraging the traffic of the human species. This was his last public act —In the debates to which this memorial gave rise, several attempts were made to justify the trade. In the Federal Gazette of March 25th, there appeared an essay, signed Historicus, written by Dr. Franklin, in which he communicated a speech, said to have been delivered in the Divan of Algiers, in 1687, in opposition to the prayer of the petition of a set called *Erika*, or purists, for the abolition of piracy and slavery. This pretended African speech was an excellent parody of one delivered by Mr. Jackson of Georgia. All the arguments used in favour of negro slavery, are applied with equal force to justify the plundering and enslaving of Europeans. It affords, at the same time, a demonstration of the futility of the arguments in defence of the slave trade, and of the strength of mind and ingenuity of the author, at his advanced period of life. It furnished too, a no less convincing proof of his power of imitating the style of other times and nations than his celebrated *parable against* persecution. And as th

Dr. Jones.

"The stone, with which he had
several years, had for the last twelv
ed him chiefly to his bed; and, du
painful paroxysms, he was obliged to
of laudanum to mitigate his tortu
intervals of pain, he not only amu
reading and conversing cheerfully
and a few friends who visited hin
employed in doing business of a
private nature, with various person
him for that purpose; and in every
ed, not only that readiness and dis
good, which was the distinguished
his life, but the fullest and cleares
uncommon mental abilities; and
indulged himself in those *jeux d'es*
ing anecdotes, which were the
heard him.

"About sixteen days before
seized with a feverish indisposi
particular symptoms attending
fourth day, when he complain
left breast, which increased till
and with a cough a

among men—and made no doubt but his present afflictions were kindly intended to wean him from a world, in which he was no longe fit to act the part assigned him. In this frame of body and mind he continued till five days before his death, when his pain and difficulty of breathing entirely left him, and his family were flattering themselves with the hopes of his recovery, when an imposthumation, which had formed itself in his lungs, suddenly burst, and discharged a great quantity of matter, which he continued to throw up, while he had sufficient strength to do it; but, as that failed, the organs of respiration became gradually oppressed—a calm lethargic state succeeded—and, on the 17th of April, 1790, about eleven o'clock at night, he quietly expired, closing a long and useful life of eighty-four years and three months."

It may not be amiss to add to the above account, that Dr. Franklin, in the year 1735, had a severe pleurisy, which terminated in an abscess of the left lobe of his lungs, and he was then almost suffocated with the quantity and suddenness of the discharge. A second attack, of a similar nature, happened some years after this, from which he soon recovered, and did not appear to suffer any inconvenience in his respiration from these events.

The following epitaph on himself, was written by him many years previous to his death—

THE BODY

of

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,

Printer,

(like the cover of an old book,

its contents torn out,

and stript of its lettering and gilding)

lies here food for worms;

yet the work itself shall not be lost.

EXTRACTS

FROM THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF

DR. FRANKLIN.

WITH regard to my books, those I had in Fr
and those I left in Philadelphia, being now assen
together here, and a catalogue made of them
my intention to dispose of the same as follows:

My "History of the Academy of Science
sixty or seventy volumes quarto, I give to the
sophical society of Philadelphia, of which I ha
honour to be president. My collection in f
"Les Arts et les Metiers," I give to the An
philosophical society, established in New E
of which I am a member. My quarto editio
same, "Arts et Metiers," I give to the libra
pany of Philadelphia. Such and so many
books as I shall mark, in the said catalogue,
name of my grandson, Benjamin Franklin
hereby give to him: and such and so ma
in the said catalogue

I was born in Boston, in New England, and owe my first instructions in literature to the free grammar-schools established there. I therefore give one hundred pounds sterling to my executors, to be by them, the survivors or survior of them, paid over to the managers or directors of the free-schools in my native town of Boston, to be by them, or the person or persons, who shall have the superintendence and management of the said schools, put out to interest, and so continued at interest forever; which interest annually shall be laid out in silver medals, and given as honorary rewards annually by the directors of the said free schools, for the encouragement of scholarship in the said schools, belonging to the said town, in such manner as to the discretion of the select men of the said town shall seem meet.

Out of the salary that may remain due to me, as president of the state, I give the sum of two thousand pounds to my executors, to be by them, the survivors or survivor of them, paid over to such person or persons as the legislature of this state, by an act of the assembly, shall appoint to receive the same, in trust, to be employed for making the Schuylkill navigable.

During the number of years I was in business as a stationer, printer, and post-master, a great many small sums became due to me, for books, advertisements, postage of letters, and other matters, which were not collected, when, in 1757, I was sent by the Assembly to England as their agent—and by subsequent appointments continued there till 1775—when, on my return, I was immediately engaged in the affairs of congress, and sent to France in 1776, where I remained nine years, not returning till 1785; and the said debts not being demanded in such a length of time, have become in a manner obsolete, yet are nevertheless justly due. These as they are stated in my great folio ledger, E, I bequeath to the contributors of the Pennsylvania hospital, hoping that those debtors, and the descendants of such as are deceased, who now, as I find, make some difficulty of satisfying such antiquated demands as just debts, may, however, be induced to pay or give them as charity to that excellent institution. I am sensible that much

of Bonfield, in Philadelphia county, to b
tors of this my last will and testament, a
nominate and appoint them for that pur
I would have my body buried with as l
or ceremony as may be.

PHILADELPHIA,
July, 17, 1788.

CODICIL.

I, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, in the foregoin
last will and testament, having further co
same, do think proper to make and put
lowing codicil, or addition thereto:

It having long been a fixed and politic
mine, that in a democratical state there o
offices of profit, for the reason I had give
cle of my drawing in our constitution, it
tention, when I accepted the office of
devote the appointed salary to some pub
cordingly I had already, before I made

certificates I have for what remains due to me of that salary, be sold towards raising the sum of two thousand pounds sterling, to be disposed of as I am now about to order.

It has been an opinion, that he who receives an estate from his ancestors, is under some obligation to transmit the same to posterity. This obligation lies not on me, who never inherited a shilling from any ancestor or relation. I shall, however, if it is not diminished by some accident before my death, leave a considerable estate among my descendants and relations. The above observation is made merely as some apology to my family, for my making bequests that do not appear to have any immediate relation to their advantage.

I was born in Boston, New England, and owe my first instructions in literature to the free grammar-schools established there. I have therefore considered those schools in my will.

But I am also under obligations to the state of Massachussetts, for having, unasked, appointed me formerly their agent, with a handsome salary, which continued some years; and, although I accidentally lost in their service, by transmitting Governor Hutchinson's letters, much more than the amount of what they gave me, I do not think that ought in the least to diminish my gratitude. I have considered that, among artisans, good apprentices are most likely to make good citizens; and having myself been bred to a manual art, printing, in my native town, and afterwards assisted to set up my business in Philadelphia by kind loans of money from two friends there, which was the foundation of my fortune, and of all the utility in life that may be ascribed to me—I wish to be useful even after my death, if possible, in forming and advancing other young men, that may be serviceable to their country in both these towns.

To this end I devote two thousand pounds sterling, which I give, one thousand thereof to the inhabitants of the town of Boston, in Massachusetts, and the other thousand to the inhabitants of the city of Philadelphia, in trust, to and for the uses, intents, and *purposes*, herein after mentioned and declared.

[illegible] apprenticeship in the said t
fully fulfilled the duties required in t
so as to obtain a good moral charact
two respectable citizens, who are w
sureties in a bond, with the applic
payment of the money so lent, with i
ing to the terms herein after prescri
bonds are to be taken for Spanish
or the value thereof in current gold
managers shall keep a bound book, o
in shall be entered the names of thos
ply for, and receive the benefit of
and of their sureties, together with
the dates, and other necessary and p
respecting the business and concerns
tion: and as these loans are intended
married artificers, in setting up their
are to be proportioned by the discretio
agers, so as not to exceed sixty pounds
person, nor to be less than fifteen poun

And if the number of appliers so e
be s. large as that the sum will not s
to every one some assistance, these a
fore be small at first, but as the capit
the accumulated interest [illegible]

aging this institution gratis; it is hoped, that no part of the money will at any time lie dead, or be diverted to other purposes, but be continually augmenting by the interest, in which case there may in time be more than the occasion in Boston may require: and then some may be spared to the neighbouring or other towns in the said state of Massachusetts, which may desire to have it, such towns engaging to pay punctually the interest, and the proportions of th principal annually to the inhabitants of the town o Boston. If this plan is executed, and succeeds, as projected, without interruption for one hundred years, the sum will be then one hundred and thirty-one thousand pounds; of which I would have the managers of the donation to the town of Boston then lay out, at their discretion, one hundred thousand pounds in public works which may be judged of most general utility to the inhabitants: such as fortifications, bridges, aqueducts, public buildings, baths, pavements, or whatever may make living in the town more convenient to its people, and render it more agreeable to strangers resorting thither for health, or a temporary residence. The remaining thirty-one thousand pounds I would have continued to be let out to interest, in the manner above directed, for one hundred years; as I hope it will have been found, that the institution has had a good effect on the conduct of youth, and been of service to many worthy characters and useful citizens. At the end of this second term, if no unfortunate accident has prevented the operation, the sum will be four millions and sixty one thousand pounds sterling, of which I leave one million and sixty one thousand pounds to the disposition and management of the inhabitants of the town of Boston and the three millions to the disposition of the government of the state; not presuming to carry my views farther.

All the directions herein given respecting the disposition and management of the donation to the inhabitants of Boston, I would have observed re-respecting that to the inhabitants of Philadelphia, only as Philadelphia is incorporated, I request the *corporation* of that city to undertake the manage-

pened in all old cities, I recommend, —
end of the first hundred years, if not done b
corporation of the city employ a part of the
thousand pounds in bringing by pipes the
the Wissahicon-creek into the town, so as
the inhabitants, which I apprehend may
without great difficulty, the level of that cr
much above that of the city, and may be ma
by a dam. I also recommend making th
kill completely navigable. At the end of t
hundred years, I would have the disposit
four millions and sixty-one thousand poun
between the inhabitants of the city of Ph
and the government of Pennsylvania, in
manner as herein directed with respect to t
inhabitants of Boston and the governmen
sachusetts. It is my desire that this
should take place, and begin to operate v
year after my decease; for which purpose
should be publicly given, previous to the
of that year, that those for whose benefit
blishment is intended may make their resp
plications: and I hereby direct my exec
survivors and survivor of them, within s
after my decease, to pay over the said su

posed; I hope, however, that if the inhabi-
the two cities should not think fit to under-
execution, they will at least accept the offer
lonations, as a mark of my good will, token
atitude, and testimony of my desire to be
them even after my departure. I wish, in-
they may both undertake to endeavour the
of my project, because I think, that, though
n difficulties may arise, expedients will be
remove them, and the scheme be found
le. If one of them accepts the money with
tions, and the other refuses, my will then is,
sums be given to the inhabitants of the city
; the whole to be applied to the same pur-
id under the same regulations directed for
rate parts; and if both refuse, the money
of course in the mass of my estate, and it is
posed of therewith, according to my will
seventeenth day of July, 1788.
crab-tree walking-stick, with a gold head
wrought in the form of the Cap of Liberty,
my friend, and the friend of mankind,
Washington. If it were a sceptre, he has
, and would become it.

ON EARLY MARRIAGES.

To John Alleyn, Esq.

DEAR JACK,

You desire, you say, my impartial thoug
subject of an early marriage, by way of
the numberless objections that have been
numerous persons to your own. You may r
when you consulted me on the occasion, that
youth on both sides to be no objection. Ind
the marriages that have fallen under my ob
I am rather inclined to think, that early
the best chance of happiness. The temper
of the young are not yet become so stiff a
plying, as when more advanced in life;
more easily to each other, and hence, mar
of disgust are removed. And if youth ha
prudence which is necessary to manage
the parents and elder friends of young
sons are generally at hand to afford
which amply supplies that defect; and,
is sooner formed to regul

s desire it. Late marriages are often attended, with this further inconvenience, that there is not ame chance that the parents should live to see offspring educated. "Late children," says the ish proverb, "are early orphans." A melan- reflection to those whose case it may be! With America, marriages are generally in the morn- f life; our children are therefore educated and d in the world by noon; and thus, our business done, we have an afternoon and evening of ful leisure to ourselves, such as our friend at nt enjoys. By these early marriages we are ed with more children; and from the mode g us, founded by nature, of every mother suck- and nursing her own child, more of them are d. Thence the swift progress of population g us, unparalleled in Europe. In fine, I am you are married, and congratulate you most ally upon it. You are now in the way of be- ng a useful citizen; and you have escaped unnatural state of celibacy for life—the fate of y here, who never intended it, but who having too postponed the change of their conditions, find, ngth, that it is too late to think of it, and so live heir lives in a situation that greatly lessens e 's value. An odd volume of a set of books, s not the value of its proportion to the set; what you of the odd half of a pair of scissors; it well cut any thing; it may possibly serve to e a trencher.

ay make my compliments and best wishes ac- able to your bride. I am old and heavy, or I ld ere this have presented them in person. I make but small use of the old man's privilege, of giving advice to younger friends. Treat your always with respect; it will procure respect to not only from her, but from all that observe it. r use a slighting expression to her, even in jest; lights in jest, after frequent bandyings, are apt nd in angry earnest. Be studious in your pro- on, and you will be learned. Be industrious and l and you will be rich. Be sober and temper- and you will be healthy. Be in general virtu

ON THE DEATH OF HIS BROTHER,

MR. JOHN FRANKLIN

TO MISS HUBBARD.

I CONDOLE with you. We have lost a
and valuable relation. But it is the will c
nature, that these mortal bodies be laid as
the soul is to enter into real life. This i
embryo state, a preparation for living. A
completely born until he be dead. Why t
we grieve that a new child is born among t
tals, a new member added to their happ
We are spirits. That bodies should be ler
while they can afford us pleasure, assist us
ing knowledge, or doing good to our fellow
is a kind and benevolent act of God. 1
become unfit for these purposes, and affc
instead of pleasure, instead of an aid b
incumbrance, and answer none of the int
which they were given, it is equally kind
volent that a way is provided by which v
rid of them. Death is that way. We ou
some cases, prudently choose a partial

and I be grieved at this, since we are soon to follow, and know where to find him?

Adieu,

B. FRANKLIN.

TO THE LATE

DOCTOR MATHER, OF BOSTON

REV. SIR,

I RECEIVED your kind letter, with your excellent advice to the people of the United States, which I read with great pleasure, and hope it will be duly regarded. Such writings, though they may be lightly passed over by many readers, yet if they make a deep impression on one active mind in a hundred, the effects may be considerable.

Permit me to mention one little instance, which, though it relates to myself, will not be quite uninteresting to you. When I was a boy, I met with a book entitled "Essays to do good," which I think was written by your father. It has been so little regarded by a former possessor, that several leaves of it were torn out; but the remainder gave me such a turn of thinking, as to have an influence on my conduct through life; for I have always set a greater value on the character of a doer of good, than any other kind of reputation; and if I have been, as you seem to think, a useful citizen, the public owes the advantage of it to that book.

You mention your being in your seventy-eighth year. I am in my seventy-ninth. We are grown old together. It is now more than sixty years since I left Boston; but I remember well both your father and grandfather, having heard them both in the pulpit, and seen them in their houses. The last time I saw your father was the beginning of 1724, when I visited

death. He was a man who nev
sion of giving instruction; and t
me: "You are young, and hav
you: stoop as you go through it,
many hard thumps." This advi
my head, has frequently been of
often think of it when I see pride
fortunes brought upon people by t
heads too high.

I long much to see again my
once hoped to lay my bones there.
I visited it in 1733, 1743, 1753, and
I was in England. In 1775 I had
could not enter, it being in possess
I did hope to have been there in 17
obtain my dismission from this emplo
now I fear I shall never have that
best wishes however attend my dea
perpetua." It is now blessed with a
stitution: may it last for ever!

This powerful monarchy contin
for the United States. It is a frie
most importance to our security, and
fully cultivated. Britain has not
the loss of

now not how soon we may again have occasion for all of them.

With great and sincere esteem,
I have the honour to be,
Rev. Sir,
Your most obedient and
Most humble servant,
B. FRANKLIN.

Passy, May 12th, 1784.

THE WHISTLE

A True Story—Written to his Nephew.

When I was a child, at seven years old, my friends, on a holiday, filled my pockets with coppers. I went directly to a shop where they sold toys for children; and, being charmed with the sound of a *whistle*, that I met by the way in the hands of another boy, I voluntarily offered him all my money for one. I then came home, and went whistling all over the house, much pleased with my *whistle*, but disturbing all the family. My brothers, and sisters, and cousins, understanding the bargain I had made, told me I had given four times as much for it as it was worth. This put me in mind what good things I might have bought with the rest of the money; and they laughed at me so much for my folly, that I cried with vexation; and the reflection gave me more chagrin than the *whistle* gave me pleasure.

This, however, was afterwards of use to me, the impression continuing on my mind; so that often, when I was tempted to buy some unnecessary thing, I said to myself, *Don't give too much for the whistle*; and so I saved my money.

As I grew up, came into the world, and observed the actions of men, I thought I met with many, very many, who *gave too much for their whistle*.

When I saw any one too ambitious of court favours, sacrificing his time in attendance on levees, his repose, his liberty, his virtue, and perhaps his

others, all the esteem of his fello
joys of benevolent friendship, f
mulating wealth; *Poor man*, sa
pay too much for your whistle.

When I meet a man of pleasu
laudable improvement of the mi
to mere corporeal sensations; *A*
you are providing pain for you
sure: you give too much for yo

If I see one fond of fine clothe
equipages, all above his fortune
tracts debts, and ends his car
says I, *he has paid dear, very dea*

When I see a beautiful sweet
ried to an ill-natured brute of
pity it is, says I, *that she has*
whistle.

In short, I conceived that gr
ries of mankind were brought up
estimates they had made of the
by their giving too much for the

other, than my sister and myself, were it not for the partiality of our parents, who made the most injurious distinctions between us. From my infancy, I have been led to consider my sister as a being of a more elevated rank. I was suffered to grow up without the least instruction, while nothing was spared in her education. She had masters to teach her writing, drawing, music, and other accomplishments; but if, by chance, I touched a pencil, a pen, or a needle, I was bitterly rebuked; and more than once I have been beaten for being awkward, and wanting a graceful manner. It is true, my sister associated me with her upon some occasions; but she always made a point of taking the lead, calling upon me only from necessity, or to figure by her side.

But conceive not, Sirs, that my complaints are instigated merely by vanity—No; my uneasiness is occasioned by an object much more serious. It is the practice in our family, that the whole business of providing for its subsistence falls upon my sister and myself. If any indisposition should attack my sister—and I mention it in confidence upon this occasion, that she is subject to the gout, the rhumatism, and cramp, without making mention of other accidents—what would be the fate of our poor family? Must not the regret of our parents be excessive, at having placed so great a difference between sisters who are so perfectly equal? Alas! we must perish from distress: for it would not be in my power even to scrawl a suppliant petition for relief, having been obliged to employ the hand of another in transcribing the request which I have now the honour to prefer to you.

Condescend, Sirs, to make my parents sensible of the injustice of an exclusive tenderness, and of the necessity of distributing their care and affection among all their children equally.

I am, with a profound respect,

Sirs,

Your obedient servant,

THE LEFT HAND

views upon their own [illegible]

In whatever situation men can be p
find conveniences and inconvenienc
company, they may find persons and c
or less pleasing: at whatever table, th
meats and drinks of better and worsc
ter and worse dressed: in whatever
find good and bad weather: under
ment, they may fin good and ba
and bad administration of those i
poem, or work of genius, they n
beauties: in almost every face,
they may discover fine features and
bad qualites.

Under these circumstances, th
ple above mentioned fix their att
are disposed to be happy, on t
things, the pleasant parts of con
dressed dishes, the goodness of
weather, &c. and enjoy all with c
who are to be unhappy, think an
contrarieties. Hence they are
tented themselves, and, by thei
pleasures of society; offend pers
and make themselves every wh

which, though in the exercise it is chiefly an act of imagination, yet it has serious consequences in life, as it brings on real griefs and misfortunes. For as many as are offended by, and nobody loves, this sort of people; no one shows them more than the most common civility and respect, and scarcely that; and this frequently puts them out of humour, and draws them into disputes and contentions. If they aim at obtaining some advantage in rank or fortune, nobody wishes them success, or will stir a step, or speak a word to favour their pretensions. If they incur public censure or disgrace, no one will defend or excuse, and many join to aggravate their misconduct, and render them completely odious. If these people will not change this bad habit, and condescend to be pleased with what is pleasing, without fretting themselves or others about the contrarieties, it is good for others to avoid an acquaintance with them, which is always disagreeable, and sometimes very inconvenient, especially when one finds one's self entangled in their quarrels.

An old philosophical friend of mine was grown, from experience, very cautious in this particular, and carefully avoided any intimacy with such people. He had, like other philosophers, a thermometer to show him the heat of the weather; and a barometer to mark when it was likely to prove good or bad; but there being no instrument invented to discover, at first sight, this unpleasing disposition in a person, he, for that purpose, made use of his legs: one of which was remarkably handsome; the other, by some accident, crooked and deformed. If a stranger, at first interview, regarded his ugly leg more than his handsome one, he doubted him. If he spoke of it, and took no notice of the handsome leg, that was sufficient to determine my philosopher to have no further acquaintance with him. Every body has not this two-legged instrument; but every one, with a little attention, may observe signs of that carping, fault-finding disposition, and take the same resolution of avoiding the acquaintance of those infected with it. I therefore advise those critical, querulous, discontented, unhappy people, if they wish to be re-

You may remember, my dear f
we lately spent that happy day,
garden and sweet society of the
stept a little in one of our walks
time behind the company. We
numberless skeletons of a kind of l
Ephemeræ, whose successive gene
told, were bred and expired within
pened to see a living company of th
appeared to be engaged in conversa
I understand all the inferior animal
great application to the study of th
cuse I can give for the little progre
your charming language. I listene
ty to the discourse of these little
they, in their national vivacity, s
together, I could make but little
tion. I found, however, by som
sions that I heard now and then, th
warmly on the merit of two foreign
cousin, the otner a *muscheto;* in w
spent their time, seeming as regar

it will likewise amuse her to whom I am so much indebted for the most pleasing of all amusements, her delicious company and heavenly harmony.

"It was," says he, "the opinion of learned philosophers of our race, who lived and flourished long before my time, that this vast world, the *Moulin Joly* could not itself subsist more than eighteen hours: and I think there was some foundation for that opinion; since, by the apparent motion of the great luminary, that gives life to all nature, and which in my time has evidently declined considerably towards the ocean at the end of the earth, it must then finish its course, be extinguished in the waters that surround us, and leave the world in cold and darkness, necessarily producing universal death and destruction. I have lived 7 of those hours; a great age, being no less than 420 minutes of time! How very few of us continue so long? I have seen generations born, flourish, and expire. My present friends are children and grand-children of the friends of my youth, who are now, alas, no more! And I must soon follow them; for, by the common course of nature, though still in health, I cannot expect to live above seven or eight minutes longer. What now avails all my toil and labour, in amassing the honey-dew on this leaf, which I cannot live to enjoy. What my political struggles I have been engaged in, for the good of my compatriot inhabitants of this bush, or my philosophical studies, for the benefit of our race in general: for in politics (what can laws do without morals?) our present race of ephemeræ will in a course of minutes became corrupt, like those of other and older bushes, and consequently as wretched! And in philosophy how small our progress. Alas! art is long, and life is short! My friends would comfort me with the idea of a name, they say, I shall leave behind me; and they tell me I have lived long enough to nature and to glory. But what will fame be to an ephemeræ who no longer exists? and what will become of all history in the eighteenth hour, when the world itself, even the whole *Moulin Joly*, shall come to its end, and be buried in an universal ruin?"

PLAYING at chess is the
sal game known among n
yond the memory of histor
less ages, been the amuse
nations of Asia, the Persi
Chinese. Europe has had
the Spaniards have sprea
America, and it begins t
these States. It is so int
need the view of gain to i
thence it is never played f
fore, who have leisure fo
find one that is more inn
piece, written with a view
young friends) some little
tice of it, shows, at the s
its effects on the mind, be
advantageous, to the var
victor.

The game of chess is r
ment. Several very valua
useful in the course of hum

"If I move this piece, what will be the advantage my new situation? What use can my adversary make of it to annoy me? What other moves can I make to support it, and to defend myself from his attacks!"

II. *Circumspection*, which surveys the whole chess-board, or scene of action, the relations of the several pieces and situations, the dangers they are respectively exposed to, the several possibilities of their aiding each other, the probabilities that the adversary may take this or that move, and attack this or the other piece, and what different means can be used to avoid his stroke, or turn its consequences against him.

III. *Caution*, not to make our moves too hastily. This habit is best acquired by observing strictly the laws of the game, such as, "If you touch a piece, you must move it somewhere; if you set it down you must let it stand:" and it is therefore best that these rules should be observed; as the game thereby becomes more the image of human life, and particularly of war; in which, if you have incautiously put yourself into a bad and dangerous position, you cannot obtain your enemy's leave to withdraw your troops, and place them more securely, but you must abide all the consequences of your rashness.

And, lastly, we learn by chess the habit of *not being discouraged by present bad appearances in the state of our affairs*, the habit of *hoping for a favourable change*, and that of *persevering in the search of resources*. The game is so full of events, there is such a variety of turns in it, the fortune of it is so subject to sudden vicissitudes, and one so frequently, after long contemplation, discovers the means of extricating one's self from a supposed insurmountable difficulty, that one is encouraged to continue the contest to the last, in hope of victory by our own skill, or at least of giving a stale mate, by the negligence of our adversary. And whoever considers, what in chess he often sees instances of, that particular pieces of success are apt to produce presumption, and its consequent inattention, by which the loss may be recovered, will learn not to be too much discouraged b

queu... to ou... every ...
ference to ou... every ...
same advantages, every ...
increase the pleasure of it should ...
every action or word that is unfair, dis
that in any way may give uneasines
avoided, as contrary to the immediat
both the players, which is to pass the ti

Therefore, first, If it is agreed to pla
the strictest rules; then those rules a
observed by both parties, and should
on for one side, while deviated from
for this is not equitable.

Secondly, If it is agreed not to
exactly, but one party demands
should then be as willing to allow t

Thirdly, No false move should
extricate yourself out of a diffic
advantage. There can be no p
with a person once detected in su

Fourthly, If your adversary
you ought not to hurry him,
easiness at his delay. You s
whistle, nor look at your watc
to read, nor make a tapping
with your fingers or
disturb his a

with himself, by every kind of civil expression that may be used with truth; such as, "You understand the game better than I, but you are a little inattentive; or, you play too fast; or, you had the best of the game, but something happened to divert your thoughts, and that turned it in my favour."

Seventhly, If you are a spectator while others play, observe the most perfect silence. For if you give advice, you offend both parties; him against whom you give it, because it may cause the loss of his game; and him, in whose favour you gave it, because, though it be good, and he follows it, he loses the pleasure he might have had, if you had permitted him to think until it had occurred to himself. Even after a move, or moves, you must not, by replacing the pieces, show how it might have been placed better; for that displeases, and may occasion disputes and doubts about their true situation. All talking to the players lessens or diverts their attention, and is therefore unpleasing. Nor should you give the least hint to either party, by any kind of noise or motion. If you do, you are unworthy to be a spectator. If you have a mind to exercise or show your judgment, do it in playing your own game, when you have an opportunity, not in criticising, or meddling with, or counselling the play of others.

Lastly, If the game is not to be played rigorously, according to the rules abovementioned, then moderate your desire of victory over your adversary, and be pleased with one over yourself. Snatch not eagerly at every advantage offered by his unskilfulness or inattention; but point out to him kindly, that by such a move he places or leaves a piece in danger and unsupported; that by another he will put his king in a perilous situation, &c. By this generous civility (so opposite to the unfairness above forbidden) you may, indeed, happen to lose the game to your own opponent, but you will win what is better, his esteem, his respect, and his affection; together with the silent approbation and good-will of impartial spectators.

which we have sometim
painful dreams, it becom
obtain the one kind, and
ther real or imaginary, pe
pleasure. If we can slee
well that painful dreams a
sleep, we can have any pl
French say, *tant gague*, s
sure of life.

To this end it is, in the f
careful in preserving heal
great temperance; for, in
is disturbed; and disagree
ideas are apt to present them
precede meals, not immed
first promotes, the latter, ur
digestion. If after exercise,
digestion will be easy and g
the temper cheerful, and al
performed agreeable. Sleep
be natural and undisturbed.
full feeding, occasions night-r
pressible: we fall from prec
wild beasts, murderers, and d

which they sleep till doomsday. Nothing is more common in the newspapers, than instances of people, who, after eating a hearty supper, are found dead a-bed in the morning.

Another means of preserving health, to be attended to, is the having a constant supply of fresh air in your bed-chamber. It has been a great mistake, the sleeping in rooms exactly closed, and in beds surrounded by curtains. No outward air, that may come into you, is so unwholesome as the unchanged air, often breathed, of a close chamber. As boiling water does not grow hotter by longer boiling, if the particles that receive greater heat can escape; so living bodies do not putrefy, if the particles, as fast as they become putrid, can be thrown off. Nature expels them by the pores of the skin and lungs, and in a free open air, they are carried off; but, in a close room, we receive them again and again, though they become more and more corrupt. A number of persons crowded into a small room, thus spoil the air in a few minutes, and even render it mortal, as in the Black Hole at Calcutta. A single person is said only to spoil a gallon of air per minute, and therefore requires a longer time to spoil a chamberful; but it is done, however, in proportion, and many putrid disorders have hence their origin. It is recorded of Methusalem, who, being the longest liver, may be supposed to have best preserved his health, that he slept always in the open air; for when he had lived five hundred years, an angel said to him, "Arise, Methusalem, and build thee an house, for thou shalt live yet five hundred years longer." But Methusalem answered and said; "If I am to live but five hundred years longer, it is not worth while to build me an house—I will sleep in the air as I have been used to do." Physicians after having for ages contended that the sick should not be indulged with fresh air, have at length discovered that it may do them good. It is therefore to be hoped, that they may in time discover likewise, that it is not hurtful to those who are in health; and that we may then be cured of the *aerophobia* that at present distresses weak *minds*, and makes them choose to be stifled and

of restlessness which is difficu
that feel it know the cause o
collect, that sometimes, on w
have, if warmly covered, fou
sleep again. We turn often,
in any position. This figetti
expression for want of a better,
by an uneasiness in the skin,
of the perspirable matter—the
received their quantity, and, bei
to take any more. To become
experiment, let a person keep hi
but throw off the bed-clothes a
approach the part uncovered
hen feel that part suddenly re
will immediately relieve the skin
ing up, and carrying off, the load
ter that incommoded it. For e
air that approaches the warm al
part of that vapour, receives th
heat, that rarefies and renders it l
be pushed away, with its burden,
fore heavier fresh air; which,
plies its place, and then

to the air, and that which, remaining sunk in the bed, denies the air access: for this part now manifests its uneasiness more distinctly by the comparison, and the seat of the uneasiness is more plainly perceived, than when the whole surface of the body was affected by it.

Here then is one great and general cause of unpleasing dreams. For when the body is uneasy, the mind will be disturbed by it, and disagreeable ideas of various kinds will, in sleep, be the natural consequences. The remedies, preventive and curative, follow.

1. By eating moderately (as before advised for health's sake) less perspirable matter is produced in a given time; hence the bed-clothes receive it longer before they are saturated; and we may, therefore, sleep longer, before we are made uneasy by their refusing to receive any more.

2. By using thinner and more porous bed-clothes, which will suffer the perspirable matter more easily to pass through them, we are less incommoded, such being longer tolerable.

3. When you are awakened by this uneasiness, and find you cannot easily sleep again, get out of bed, beat up and turn your pillow, shake the bed clothes well, with at least twenty shakes, then throw the bed open, and leave it to cool: in the meanwhile, continuing undrest, walk about your chamber, till your skin has had time to discharge its load, which it will do sooner as the air may be drier and colder. When you begin to feel the cold air unpleasant, then return to your bed; and you will soon fall asleep, and your sleep will be sweet and pleasant. All the scenes presented to your fancy will be of the pleasing kind. I am often as agreeably entertained with them, as by the scenery of an opera. If you happen to be too indolent to get out of bed, you may, instead of it, lift your bed-clothes with one arm and leg, so as to draw in a good deal of fresh air, and by letting them fall, force it out again; this, repeated twenty times, will so clear them of the perspirable matter they have imbibed, as to permit your sleeping well for

removal so distant from the first
cool and sweet, may in a degree
end.

One or two observations more v
little piece. Care must be taken
down, to dispose your pillow so as
ner of placing your head, and to b
then place your limbs so as not to b
ly hard upon one another; as for in
of your ancles: for though a bad po
give but little pain, and be hardly n
tinuance will render it less tolerable
ness may come on while you are as
your imagination.

These are the rules of the art.
will generally prove effectual in p
intended, there is a case in which t
observance of them will be totally
not mention the case to you, my dea
account of the art would be imper
The case is, when the person wh
the pleasant dreams has not taken
what is necessary, above all things,

A GOOD C

ADVICE TO A YOUNG TRADESMAN.

Written anno 1748.

TO MY FRIEND, A. B.

As you have desired it of me, I write the following hints, which have been of service to me, and may if observed, be so to you.

REMEMBER that *time* is money. He that can earn ten shillings a-day by his labour, and goes abroad, or sits idle one half of that day, though he spends but six pence during his diversion or idleness ought not to reckon *that* the only expense; he has really spent, or rather thrown away, five shillings besides.

Remember that *credit* is money. If a man lets his money lie in my hands after it is due, he gives me the interest, or so much as I can make of it during that time. This amounts to a considerable sum where a man has good and large credit, and makes good use of it,

Remember that money is of a prolific generating nature. Money can beget money, and its offspring can beget more, and so on. Five shillings turned is six; turned again is seven and three pence; and so on till it becomes an hundred pounds. The more there is of it, the more it produces every turning, so that the profits rise quicker and quicker. He that kills a breeding sow, destroys all her offspring to the thousandth generation. He that murders a crown, destroys all that it might have produced, even scores of pounds.

Remember that six pounds a-year is but a groat a-day. For this little sum (which may be daily wasted either in time or expense, unperceived) a man of credit may, on his own security, have the constant possession and use of an hundred pounds. So much in stock, briskly turned by an industrious man, produces great advantage.

Remember this saying. "The good paymaster is lord of *another* man's purse." He that is known to

shut up your friend's purse for ever

The most trifling actions that a
dit are to be regarded. The sound
at five in the morning, or nine at
creditor, makes him easy six mon
he sees you at a billiard-table, or h
a tavern, when you should be at
his money the next day; deman
receive it in a lump.

It shows, besides, that you ar
you owe; it makes you appear a
an honest man, and that still incre

Beware of thinking all your ow
and of living accordingly. It is a
people who have credit fall into.
keep an exact account, for some
expenses and your income. If yo
first to mention particulars, it w
effect; you will discover how wo
fling expenses mount up to large s
tern what might have been, and
be saved, without occasioning a
nience.

In short, the way to wealth, if

NECESSARY HINTS TO THOSE THAT WOULD BE RICH.

WRITTEN ANNO 1736.

The use of money is all the advantage there is in having money.

For six pounds a-year you may have the use of one hundred pounds, provided you are a man of known prudence and honesty.

He that spends a groat a-day idly, spends idly above six pounds a-year, which is the price for the use of one hundred pounds.

He that wastes idly a groat's worth of his time per day, one day with another, wastes the privilege of using one hundred pounds each year.

He that idly loses five shillings worth of time loses five shillings, and might as prudently throw five shillings into the sea.

He that loses five shillings, not only loses that sum, but all the advantages that might be made by turning it in dealing; which, by the time that a young man becomes old, will amouut to a considerable sum of money.

Again; he that sells upon credit, asks a price for what he sells equivalent to the principal and interest of his money for the time he is to be kept out of it: therefore, he that buys upon credit, pays interest for what he buys; and he that pays ready money, might let that money out to use; so that he that possesses any thing he has bought, pays interest for the use of it.

Yet, in buying goods, it is best to pay ready money, because, he that sells upon credit, expects to lose five per cent. by bad debts; therefore he charges, on all he sells upon credit, an advance that shall make up that deficiency.

Those who pay for what they buy upon credit, pay their share of this advance.

He that pays ready money, escapes, or may escape that charge.

A penny sav'd is twopence clear;
A pin a day's a groat a year.

At this time, w...
"money is scarce," it will be an
inform the moneyless how they m
pockets. I will acquaint them w
of money-catching—the certain w
purses—and how to keep them al
simple rules, well observed, will do

First, Let honesty and industry
companions; and,

Secondly, Spend one penny les
gains.

Then shall thy hide-bound poc
thrive, and will never again cry wi
ach: neither will creditors insult t
press, no hunger bite, nor nake
The whole hemisphere will shine
sure spring up in every corner o
therefore, embrace these rules an
the bleak winds of sorrow from
independent. Then shalt thou
hide thy face at the approach of
the pain of feeling little when
walk at thy right hand: for in
with little or much, is good fort
—ound with the pr

AN ECONOMICAL PROJECT

A translation of this Letter appeared in one of the daily papers of Paris about the year 1784. The following is the original piece, with some additions and corrections made by the Author.

To the Authors of the Journal.

MESSIEURS

You often entertain us with accounts of new discoveries. Permit me to communicate to the public through your paper, one that has lately been made by myself, and which I conceive may be of great utility.

I was the other evening in a grand company, where the new lamp of Messrs. Quinquet and Lange was introduced, and much admired for its splendour; but a general inquiry was made, whether the oil it consumed was not in proportion to the light it afforded, in which case there would be no saving in the use of it. No one present could satisfy us in that point, which all agreed ought to be known, it being a very desirable thing to lessen, if possible, the expense of lighting our apartments, when every other article of family expense was so much augmented.

I was pleased to see this general concern for economy, for I love economy exceedingly.

I went home, and to bed, three or four hours after midnight, with my head full of the subject. An accidental sudden noise waked me about six in the morning, when I was surprised to find my room filled with light; and I imagined at first, that a number of those lamps had been brought into it: but, rubbing my eyes, I perceived the light came in at the windows. I got up and looked out to see what might be the occasion of it, when I saw the sun just rising above the horizon, from whence he poured his rays plentifully into my chamber, my domestic having negligently omitted the preceding evening to close the shutters.

me have never seen any signs of [illegible]
noon, and seldom regard the astronomical p
the almanack, will be as much astonished as I
when they hear of his rising so early; and es
ally when I assured them, *that he gives light as*
as he rises. I am convinced of this. I am ce
of my fact. One cannot be more certain of any
I saw it with my own eyes. And having rep
this observation the three following mornings, I f
always precisely the same result.

Yet it so happens, that when I speak of this d
very to others, I can easily perceive by their c
tenances, though they forbear expressing it in w
that they do not quite believe me. One, indeed,
is a learned natural philosopher, has assured me,
must certainly be mistaken as to the circumstance
light coming into my room; for it being well kn
as he says, that there could be no light abroad a
hour, it follows that none could enter from with
and that of consequence, my windows being
dentally left open, instead of letting in the light,
only served to let out the darkness: and he used
ingenious arguments to show me how I migh
that means, have been deceived. I own that he
[illegible] an

love of economy induced me to muster up what little arithmetic I was master of, and to make some calculations, which I shall give you, after observing, that utility is, in my opinion, the test of value in matters of invention, and that a discovery which can be applied to no use, or is not good for something, is good for nothing.

I took for the basis of my calculation the supposition, that there are 100,000 families in Paris and that these families consume in the night half a pound of bougies, or candles, per hour. I think this is a moderate allowance, taking one family with another; for though I believe some consume less, I know that many consume a great deal more. Then estimating seven hours per day, as the medium quantity between the time of the sun's rising and ours, he rising during the six following months from six to eight hours before noon, and there being seven hours of course per night in which we burn candles, the account will stand thus:

In the six months between the twentieth of March and the twentieth of September, there are Nights - - - - - - - - - - - -	183
Hours of each night in which we burn candles - - - - - - - - - - -	7
Multiplication gives for the total number of hours - - - - - - - - - - - -	1,281
These 1,281 hours multiplied by 100,000, the number of inhabitants given - -	128,[illegible]000
One hundred twenty-eight millions and one hundred thousand hours, spent at Paris by candle-light, which at half a pound of wax and tallow per hour, gives the weight of - - - - - - - -	64,050,000
Sixty-four millions and fifty thousand of pounds, which, estimating the whole at the medium price of thirty sols the pound, makes the sum of ninety-six millions and seventy-five thousand livres tournois - - - - - - - - -	96,075,000

[illegible], as soon as they h
that it is day-light whe
to rise with him; and, t
propose the following re

First. Let a tax be lai
every window that is pro
out the light of the sun.

Second. Let the same
lice be made use of to pre
that inclined us last winte
burning wood: that is, let
shops of the wax and tallov
ly be permitted to be supp
pound of candles per week.

Third. Let guards also
coaches, &c. that would pa
set, except those of physici
wives.

Fourth. Every morning,
ses, let all the bells in every
ing; and if that is not su
fired [illegible] every street, to wake
ally [illegible] make them open the
inter[illegible]

All [illegible]

that I have calculated upon only one half o year, and much may be saved in the other, th the days are shorter. Besides, the immense sto wax and tallow left unconsumed during the sumn will probably make candles much cheaper for ensuing winter, and continue cheaper as long as proposed information shall be supported.

For the great benefit of this discovery, thus fre communicated and bestowed by me on the public, demand neither place, pension, exclusive privileg or any other reward whatever. I expect only t have the honour of it. And yet I know there ar little envious minds who will, as usual, deny me this and say, that my invention was known to the an cients, and perhaps they may bring passages out o the old books in proof of it. I will not dispute with these people that the ancients knew not that the sun would rise at certain hours; they possibly had, as we have, almanacks that predicted it: but it does not follow from thence, that they knew *he gave light as soon as he rose.* This is what I claim as my discovery. If the ancients knew it, it must have been long since forgotten, for it certainly was unknown to the moderns, at least to the Parisians; which to prove, I need use but one plain simple argument. They are as well instructed, judicious, and prude a people as exist any where in the world, all pro sing, like myself, to be lovers of economy; and fr e many heavy taxes required from them for the ities of he state, have surely reason to be ec I ay, it is impossible that so sensible a peo er uch circumstances, should have lived so long the noky, unwholesome, and enormously exp ive ht of candles, if they had really known that they ight have had as much pure light of the sun for thing. I am, &c.

AN ABONNE.

It is expected [illegible]
into this school, be at least able [illegible]
divide the syllables in reading, and t
legible hand. None to be received that
years of age.

FIRST, OR LOWEST CLASS.

Let the first class learn the English gra
and at the same time let particular care
improve them in orthography. Perhaps
best done by pairing the scholars; two
est equal in their spelling to be put togeth
strive for victory; each propounding te
day to the other to be spelled. He th
most of the other's words, is victor fo
that is victor most days in a month, to
a pretty neat book of some kind, use
ture studies. This method fixes th
children extremely to the orthography
makes them good spellers very early.
for a man to be so ignorant of this littl
langua[illegible]as to be perpetually confo
[illegible]d and different significations
[illegible]which defect make some m
[illegible]standing, a

; get a few of these words and explanations which would a little exercise their memo- least they might write a number of them book for the purpose, which would help to ining of those words in their minds, and at ime furnish every one with a little diction- future use.

THE SECOND CLASS,

ught reading with attention, and with pro ıtions of the voice, according to the senti he subject.

ıort pieces, not exceeding the length of a to be given this class for lessons (and some er Spectators would be very suitable for ıe.) These lessons might be given every ısks, the scholars to study them against g. Let it then be required of them to give , first of the parts of speech, and construc- or two sentences. This will oblige them ıquently to their grammar, and fix its prin- in their memory. Next, of the intention ɜr, or the scope of the piece, the meaning ntence, and of every uncommon word. l early acquaint them with the meaning ıf words, and giving them that most neces- of reading with attention.

ıter then to read the piece with the proper ıs of voice, due emphasis, and suitable action is required; and put the youth is manner.

ıe author has used an expression not the be pointed out; and let his beauties be y remarked to the youth.

ɜssons for reading be varied, that the youth de acquainted with good styles of all kinds d verse, and the proper manner of reading —sometimes a well-told story, a piece of a general's speech to his soldiers, a speech in some part of a comedy, an ode, a satire, a k verse, Hudibrastic, heroic, &c. But let s be chosen for reading, as contain some

we do, and because i
they often read as Pa
nothing of the meaning
er should give the due
pronounce properly, un
fore his tongue, and m
ment. Accustoming bo
not first understand, is t
so common among rea
once got a habit of usin
rect; by which means, a
ly find a good one. Fo
ces published with a vie
men, for their own or t
their force. Were there
neighbourhood, a publi
throughout a nation with
have the same effect up
stood within the reach of

THE THIR

"To be taught speaking
which is near a-kin to go
follows it in th

'ery thing that could injure the morals of youth) : likewise be got by rote, and the boys exercised livering or acting them; great care being taken m their manner after the truest models.

: their farther improvement, and a little to vary studies, let them now begin to read history, having got by heart a short table of the principal s in chronology. They may begin with Rollin's ıt and Roman histories, and proceed at proper , as they go though the subsequent classes, with st histories of our own nation and colonies. Let ıtion be excited among the boys, by giving, y, little prizes, or other small encouragements ıse who are able to give the best account of what ıave read, as to times, places, names of persons, This will make them read with attention, and nt the history well in their memories. In re- ing on the history, the master will have fine op- nites of instilling instruction of various kinds, nproving the morals, as well as the understand- of youth.

: natural and mechanic history, contained in *pectacle de la Nature*, might also be begun in class, and continued through the subsequent s, by other books of the same kind; for, next to nowledge of duty, this kind of knowledge is nly the most useful, as well as the most enter- g. The merchant may thereby be enabled bet- understand many commodities in trade; the craftsman to improve his business by new in- ents, mixtures, and materials, and frequently are given for new methods of improving land, nay be set on foot greatly to the advantage of a ry.

THE FOURTH CLASS.

be taught composition. Writing one's own age well, is the next necessary accomplishment good speaking. It is the writing master's busi- to take care that the boys make fair characters, lace them straight and even in the lines: but to their style, and even to take care that the sense

...tion, or expostulation, e...
should be taught to express
cisely, and naturally, witho...
flown phrases. All their let...
master's hand, who is to po...
the corrections, and comme...
Some of the best letters pub...
guage, as Sir William Tem...
his friends, and some others,
youth as models, their beau...
plained by the master, the
scribed by the scholar.

Dr. Johnson's *Ethices Elem...*
of Morality, may now be re...
explained by the master, to la...
virtue and piety in their mi...
continues the reading of his
proper hours, receive some
chronology and in that part o...
mathematical master) which
stand the maps and globes. T...
quainted with the modern na...
find mentioned in ancient writ...
good reading, and proper spe...
at suitable times.

rhyme of verse, and at the same time well express the sentiment. These essays should all pass under the master's eye, who will point out their faults, and put the writer on correcting them. Where the judgment is not ripe enough for forming new essays, let the sentiments of a Spectator be given, and required to be clothed in the scholars own words; or the circumstances of some good story: the scholar to find expression. Let them be put sometimes on abridging a paragraph of a diffuse author: sometimes on dilating or amplifying what is wrote more closely And now let Dr. Johnson's *Nostica*, or First Principles of Human Knowledge, containing a logic, or art of reasoning, &c. be read by the youth, and the difficulties that may occur to them be explained by the master. The reading of history, and the exercises of good reading and just speaking, still continued.

SIXTH CLASS.

In this class, besides continuing the studies of the preceding in history, rhetoric, logic, moral and natural philosophy, the best English authors may be read and explained; as Tillotson, Milton, Locke, Addison, Pope, Swift, the higher papers in the Spectator and Guardian, the best translations of Homer, Virgil and Horace, of Telemachus, Travels of Cyrus, &c.

Once a-year, let there be public exercises in the hall; the trustees and citizens present. Then let fine gilt books be given as prizes to such boys as distinguish themselves, and excel the others in any branch of learning, making three degrees of comparison; giving the best prize to him that performs best, a less valuable one to him that comes up next to the best; and another to the third. Commendations, encouragement, and advice to the rest, keeping up their hopes, that, by industry, they may excel another time. The names of those that obtain the prize, to be yearly printed in a list.

The hours of each day are to be divided and disposed in such a manner as that some classes may be with the writing master, improving their hands,

school fitted [illegible]
profession, except in su[illegible]
quired; and though unacquainte[illegible] masters of [illegible]
or foreign tongue, they will be masters of [illegible]
which is of more immediate and general use; a[illegible]
withal, will have attained many other valuable
complishments: the time usually spent in acqui[illegible]
those languages often without success, being
employed in laying such a foundation of know[illegible]
and ability, as, properly improved, may qualify
to pass through and execute the several offices o[illegible]
life, with advantage and reputation to themselv[illegible]
country.

ON MODERN INNOVATIONS IN THE E[illegible]
LANGUAGE AND IN PRINTIN[illegible]

TO NOAH WEBSTER, JUN. ESQ. AT HAR[illegible]

Philadelphia, Dec.

DEAR SIR,

I RECEIVED some time since your *Di*[illegible]
[illegible]ish *Language*. It is an exc[illegible]
[illegible] useful in turning th[illegible]
[illegible]ing. P[illegible]

red to you, I wish, however, that in some future publication of yours, you would set a discountenancing mark upon them. The first I remember is the word *improved*. When I left New England in the year 1723, this word had never been used among us, as far as I know, but in the sense of *ameliorated*, or *made better*, except once in a very old book of Dr. Mather's, entitled, "*Remarkable Providences.*" As that man wrote a very obscure hand, I remember that when I read that word in his book, used instead of the word *employed*, I conjectured that it was an error of th printer, who had mistaken a short *l* in the writing for an *r*, and a *y* with too short a tail for a *v*, whereby *employed* was converted into *improved*: but when I returned to Boston in 1733, I found this change had obtained favour, and was then become common; for I met with it often in perusing the newspapers, where it frequently made an appearance rather ridiculous. Such, for instance, as the advertisement of a country house, which had become many years *improved* as a tavern; and in the character of a deceased country gentleman, that he had been for more than thirty years, *improved* as a justice of peace. This use of the word *improve* is peculiar to New England, and not to be met with among any other speakers of English, either on this or the other side of the water.

During my late absence in France, I find that several other new words have been introduced into our parliamentary language. For example, I find a verb formed from the substantive *notice*. *I should not have* noticed *this, were it not that the gentleman, &c.* Also another verb from the substantive *advocate*: *The gentleman who* advocates, *or who has* advocated *that motion, &c.* Another from the substantive *progress*, the most aukward and abominable of the three: *The committee having* progressed, *resolved to adjourn.* The word *opposed*, though not a new word, I find used in a new manner, as, *The gentlemen who are* opposed *to this measure, to which I have also myself always been* opposed. If you should happen to be of my opinion, with respect to those innovations, you will use your authority in reprobating them.

derable advantage to that nation. It ena
thers to inculcate and spread through ot
such sentiments and opinions, on import
as are most conducive to its interests, or
contribute to its reputation, by promotin
mon interests of mankind. It is, perhap
its being written in French, that Voltair
on Toleration has had so sudden and
effect on the bigotry of Europe, as almos
disarm it. The general use of the Fren
has likewise a very advantageous effect o
of the bookselling branch of commerce; i
known, that the more copies can be s
struck off from one composition of types
increase in a much greater proportion tha
making a greater number of pieces in an
of manufacture. And at present there i
town in Europe without a French books
corresponding with Paris. Our English
obtain the second place. The great bod
lent printed sermons in our language, and
of our writing on political subjects, have
great number of divines, of different se
tions, as well as gentlemen concerned in

between the [illegible] accession of George the Second, we may observe, that all substantives were begun with a capital, in which we imitated our mother-tongue, the German. This was more particularly useful to those who were not well acquainted with the English, there being such a prodigious number of our words that are both verbs and substantives, and spelt in the same manner, though often accented differently in pronounciation. This method has, by the fancy of printers of late years, been entirely laid aside; from an idea, that suppressing the capitals shows the character to greater advantage; those letters, prominent above the line, disturbing its even, regular appearance. The effect of this change is so considerable, that a learned man of France, who used to read our books, though not perfectly acquainted with our language, in conversation with me on the subject of our authors, attributed the greater obscurity he found in our modern books, compared with those of the period above-mentioned, to a change of style for the worse in our writers: of which mistake I convinced him, by marking for him each substantive with a capital, in a paragraph, which he then easily understood, though before he could not comprehend it. This shows the inconvenience of that pretended improvement.

From the same fondness for an uniform and even appearance of characters in a line, the printers have of late banished also the Italic types, in which words of importance to be attended to in the sense of the sentence, and words on which an emphasis should be put in reading, used to be printed. And lately another fancy has induced other printers to use the round,

[illegible] printing is m[illegible]
Hence the English new boo[illegible]
a character as to be read w[illegible]
unless in a very strong ligh[illegible]
Whoever compares a volu[illegible]
Magazine printed between t[illegible]
with one of those printed in [illegible]
convinced of the much great[illegible]
given by black than by the [illegible]
pleasantly remarked this diff[illegible]
printer of the Dublin Journal [illegible]
ing encomiums on his own p[illegible]
plete of any in the world. "[illegible]
says my Lord, "don't you thi[illegible]
ther improved, by using pape[illegible]
near of a colour?"—For all t[illegible]
but wish our American printe[illegible]
tions, avoid these fancied impr[illegible]
render their works more agre[illegible]
Europe, to the great advanta[illegible]
commerce.

Farther, to be more sensible [illegible]
clear and distinct printing, let u[illegible]
ance it affords in reading well a[illegible]
In so doing the eye [illegible]

our mode of printing. We are sensible, sn a question is met with in the reading a proper variation to be used in the man- of the voice: we have, therefore, a point ı interrogation affixed to the question, to sh it. But this is absurdly placed at its that the reader does not discover it till he ıt he was wrongly modulating his voice, therefore obliged to begin again the sen- To prevent this, the Spanish printers, more place an interrogation at the beginning as ıt the end of the question. We have ano- ır of the same kind in printing plays, where ıg often occurs that is marked as spoken But the word *aside* is placed at the end of the when it ought to precede it, as a direction to ler, that he may govern his voice accord- The practise of our ladies, in meeting five ogether, to form little busy parties, where employed in some useful work, while one them, is so commendable in itself, that it the attention of authors and printers to as pleasing as possible, both to the reader ers.

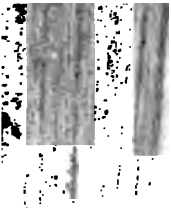
est wishes attend you, being with sincere

Sir,

Your most obedient and

Very humble servant,

B FRANKLIN.



IT may receive and
kinds, against all pers
citizens of the state, a
and may judge, sentenc
only private individuals
or without inquiry or
tion.

Whose favour, or for u
esta

In favour of about on
who, by education, or pr
quired a tolerable style as
tion, so as to bear printing
press and a few types. T
the citizens have the liber
ing the other four hundre
their pleasure; or they ma
press to others, for that pu

Practice of th

It is not governed by any
non courts of

and in the same moment judged and condemned, and sentence pronounced against him that he is a rogue and a villian. Yet if an officer of this court receives the slightest check for misconduct in this his office, he claims immediately the rights of a free citizen by the constitution, and demands to know his accuser, to confront the witnesses, and have a fair trial by the jury of his peers.

The foundation of its authority.

It is said to be founded on an article in the state constitution, which establishes the liberty of the press—a liberty which every Pennsylvanian would fight and die for, though few of us, I believe, have distinct ideas of its nature and extent. It seems, indeed, somewhat like the liberty of the press, that felons have, by the common law of England before conviction; that is, to be either pressed to death or hanged. If by the liberty of the press, we understood merely the liberty of discussing the propriety of public measures and political opinions, let us have as much of it as you please; but if it means the liberty of affronting, calumniating, and defaming one another, I, for my part, own myself willing to part with my share of it, whenever our legislators shall please to alter the law; and shall cheerfully consent to exchange my liberty of abusing others, for the privilege of not being abused myself.

By whom this court is commissioned or constituted.

It is not by any commission from the supreme executive council, who might previously judge of the abilities, integrity, knowledge, &c. of the persons to be appointed to this great trust, of deciding upon the characters and good fame of the citizens: for this court is above that council, and may accuse, judge, and condemn it at pleasure. Nor is it hereditary, as is the court of dernier resort in the peerage of England. But any man who can procure pen, ink, and

as an enemy to the liberty of the press.

Of the natural support of this cour

Its support is founded in the depravity
minds as have not been mended by religion
proved by good education.

There is a lust in man no charm can tam
Of loudly publishing his neighbour's sham

Hence,

On eagle's wings immortal scandals fly,
While virtuous actions are but born and d
D

Whoever feels pain on hearing a good ch
his neighbour, will feel a pleasure in the r
And of those who, despairing to rise in disti
their virtues, are happy if others can be de
a level with themselves, there are a number

Of the checks proper to be established against the abuses of power in those courts.

Hitherto there are none. But since so much has been written and published on the federal constitution; and the necessity of checks in all parts of good government, has been so clearly and learnedly explained, I find myself so far enlightened as to suspect some check may be proper in this part also; but I have been at a loss to imagine any that may not be construed an infringement of the sacred liberty of the press. At length, however, I think I have found one, that instead of diminishing general liberty, shall augment it: which is, by restoring to the people a species of liberty, of which they have been deprived by our laws—I mean the liberty of the cudgel! In the rude state of society, prior to the existence of law if one man gave another ill language, the affronted person might return it by a box on the ear; and, if repeated, by a good drubbing; and this without offending against any law: but now the right of making such returns is denied, and they are punished as breaches of the peace, while the right of abusing seems to remain in full force; the laws made against it being rendered ineffectual by the liberty of the press.

My proposal then is, to leave the liberty of the press untouched, to be exercised in its full extent, force, and vigour, but to permit the liberty of the cudgel to go with it, *parri passu*. Thus, my fellow-citizens, if an impudent writer attacks your reputation—dearer perhaps to you than your life, and puts his name to the charge, you may go to him as openly, and break his head. If he conceals himself behind the printer, and you can nevertheless discover who he is, you may, in like manner, waylay him in the night, attack him behind, and give him a good drubbing. If you adversary hires better writers than himself to abuse you more effectually, you may hire as many porters, stronger than yourself, to assist you in giving him a more effectual drubbing. Thus far goes my *project* as to *private* resentment and retribution. But if the public should ever happen to be

up the consideration
press, and that of the
mark their extent an
that they secure the pe
they would likewise
reputation.

P A

A

Some wit of old—such
Whose hints show'd mea
By one brave stroke to m
Call'd clear blank paper e
When still, as opening sen
Fair virtue put a seal, or

The thought was happy,
Methinks a genius might th
I (can you pardon my

Mechanics, servants, farmers, and so forth,
Are *copy-paper*, of inferior worth;
Less priz'd, more useful, for your desk decreed,
Free to all pens, and prompt at ev'ry need.

The wretch whom av'rice bids to pinch and spare,
Starve, cheat, and pilfer, to enrich an heir,
Is coarse *brown-paper*; such as pedlers choose
To wrap up wares, which better men will use.

Take next the miser's contrast, who destroys
Health, fame, and fortune, in a round of joys.
Will any paper match him? Yes, throughout,
He's a true *sinking-paper*, past all doubt.

The retail politician's anxious thought
Deems *this* side always right, and *that* stark nought
He foams with censure; with applause he raves—
A dupe to rumours, and a tool of knaves;
He'll want no type his weakness to proclaim,
While such a thing as *fools-cap* has a name.

The hasty gentleman, whose blood runs high,
Who picks a quarrel, if you step awry,
Who can't a jest, or hint, or look endure:
What's he? What? *Touch-paper* to be sure.

What are our poets, take them as they fall
Good, bad, rich, poor, much read, not read at all?
Them and their works in the same class you'll find
They are the mere *waste-paper* of mankind.

Observe the maiden, innocently sweet,
She's fair *white-paper*, an unsullied sheet;
On which the happy man, whom fate ordains,
May write his *name*, and take her for his pains.

One instance more, and only one I'll bring;
'Tis the *great man* who scorns a little thing,
Whose thoughts, whose deeds, whose maxims are his own,
Form'd on the feelings of his heart alone:
True genuine *royal-paper* is his breast:
Of all the *kinds* most precious, purest, best

I am apprehensive that I [illegible]
for making all the disqui[illegible]
which would be desirable on this [illegible]
therefore, content myself with a few rem[illegible]
bodies, in
The specific gravity of some human [illegible] examined by
comparison to that of water, has been [illegible] transactions
Robinson, in our Philosophical Transactions [illegible] He asser
[illegible] 50, page 50, for the year 1757.
that fat persons with small bones float most eas
[illegible]on water.
The diving bell is accurately described in
Transactions.
When I was a boy I made two oval pallet
about ten inches long, and six broad, with
for the thumb, in order to retain it fast in t
of my hand. They much resemble a pair
lets. In swimming, I pushed the edges of
ward, and I struck the water with their fl
as I drew them back I remember I swa
means of these pallets, but they fatigue
I also fitted to the soles of my feet a kin
but I was not satisfied with them, becau
the stroke is partly given by the
the ancles, and not entirely w
[illegible]coats for swim
with sm

is seized with the cramp in the leg, the
riving it away is to give to the parts af-
den, vigorous and violent shock; which
ı the air, as he swims on his back.

great heats of summer, there is no dan-
ıg, however warm we may be, in rivers
been thoroughly warmed by the sun.
one's self into cold spring water, when
ı been heated by exercise in the sun, is
ce which may prove fatal. I once knew
of four young men, who, having worked
the heat of the day, with a view of re-
nselves, plunged into a spring of cold
died upon the spot, a third the next
l the fourth recovered with great difficul-
us draught of cold water, in similar cir-
is frequently attended with the same
h America.

se of swimming is one of the most healthy
e in the world. After having swam for
wo in the evening, one sleeps coolly the
, even during the most ardent heat of
rhaps the pores being cleansed, the in-
piration increases, and occasions this
is certain, that much swimming is the
oping a diarrhœa, and even of producing
on. With respect to those who do not
swim, or who are affected with a diarrhœa
which does not permit them to use that
warm bath, by cleansing and putrifying
found very salutary, and often effects a
. I speak from my own experience,
peated, and that of others, to whom I
ended this.

ot be displeased if I conclude these hasty
informing you, that as the ordinary
imming is reduced to the act of rowing
s and legs, and is consequently a labo-
guing operation when the space of water
l is considerable; there is a method in
mmer may pass to great distances with
, by means of a sail. This discovery I

ble height abov
In a little time, being desirous of
my kite, and enjoying at the sam
of swimming, I returned, and lo
the string with the little stick w
it, went again into the water,
lying on my back, and holding t
I was drawn along the surface
agreeable manner. Having t
boy to carry my clothes round
which I pointed out to him, on
to cross the pond with my k
quite over without the least
greatest pleasure imaginable
occasionally to halt a little i
its progress, when it appeare
quick, I lowered the kite too
occasionally I made it rise ag
that time practised this sing
though I think it not impossi
ner from Dover to Calais.
ever, is still preferrable.

self. You know the cold bath has long been in vogue here as a tonic: but the shock of the cold water hath always appeared to me, generally speaking, as too violent, and I have found it much more agreeable to my constitution to bathe in another element—I mean cold air. With this view I rise early almost every morning, and sit in my chamber without any clothes whatever, half an hour or an hour, according to the season, either reading or writing. This practice is not in the least painful, but on the contrary, agreeable; and if I return to bed afterwards, before I dress myself, as it sometimes happens, I make a supplement to my night's rest of one or two hours of the most pleasing sleep that can be imagined. I find no ill consequences whatever resulting from it, and that at least it does not injure my health, if it does not in fact contribute to its preservation.—I shall therefore call it a *bracing*, or *tonic* bath.

March 10, 1773.

I SHALL not attempt to explain why damp clothes occasion colds, rather than wet ones, because I doubt the fact; I imagine that neither the one nor the other contribute to this effect, and that the causes of cold are totally independent of wet, and even of cold. I propose writing a short paper on this subject, the first moment of leisure I have at my disposal. In the mean time, I can only say, that having some suspicions that the common notion, which attributes to cold the property of stopping the pores and obstructing perspiration, was ill-founded, I engaged a young physician, who is making some experiments with Sanctorius's balance, to estimate the different proportions of his perspiration, when remaining one hour quite naked, and another warmly clothed.—He pursued the experiment in this alternate manner for eight hours successively, and found his perspiration almost double during those hours in which he was naked.

Your observations on ...
experiments which you propose for ...
those who appear to be killed by lightni
strate equally your sagacity and humani
pears that the doctrines of life and death,
are yet but little understood.

A toad buried in the sand will live, it
til the sand becomes petrified; and then
closed in the stone, it may live for we kn
many ages. The facts which are cited in
this opinion, are too numerous and too circ
not to deserve a certain degree of credit.
accustomed to see all the animals with wh
acquainted eat and drink, it appears to us
conceive, how a toad can be supported in
geon. But if we reflect that the necessity
ment which animals experience in th
state, proceeds from the continual waste
stance by perspiration; it will appear
ble, that some animals, in a torpid sta
less, because they use no exercise, sho
need of aliment; and that others, whic
with scales or shells, which stop pers
as land and sea turtles, serpents and s
... be able to subsist a con

weather at sea, and which require particular care and attention.

I have seen an instance of common flies preserved in a manner somewhat similar. They had been drowned in Madeira wine, apparently about the time it was bottled in Virginia, to be sent to London. At the opening of one of the bottles, at the house of a friend where I was, three drowned flies fell into the first glass that was filled. Having heard it remarked that drowned flies were capable of being revived by the rays of the sun, I proposed making the experiment upon these. They were therefore exposed to the sun, upon a sieve which had been employed to strain them out of the wine. In less than three hours, two of them by degrees began to recover life. They commenced by some convulsive motions in the thighs, and at length they raised themselves upon their legs, wiped their eyes with their fore feet, beat and brush ed their wings with their hind feet, and soon after began to fly, finding themselves in Old England, without knowing how they came thither. The third continued lifeless until sun-set, when, losing all hopes of him, he was thrown away.

I wish it were possible, from this instance, to invent a method of embalming drowned persons in such a manner, that they may be recalled to life at any period, however distant: for, having a very ardent desire to see and observe the state of America an hundred years hence, I should prefer to an ordinary death, the being immersed in a cask of Madeira wine, with a few friends, until that time, then to be recalled to life by the solar warmth of my dear country! But since, in all probability, we live in an age too early, and too near the infancy of science, to see such an art brought in our time to its perfection, I must, for the present, content myself with the treat, which you are so kind as to promise me, of the resurrection of a fowl or a turkey-cock.

departure. Without this, yo
terrupted and tormented by
acquaintances, who not onl
valuable time, but make you
which you wish to remembe
embarked and fairly at sea,
uneasiness, affairs, which y
accounts that you have not
things which you proposed
which you find the want of
it not be attended with the
form such a custom, and to
deranging him, to make his
to set apart a few days, wh
take leave of his friends, a
wishes for his happy return

It is not always in one's
tain; though great part of
ness of the passage depen
though one must for a time
pany, and be in some mea
If he is a social sensible ma
disposition, you will be so
sometimes meets with peop

out it into bottles, without which you cannot expect to preserve it sweet. You ought also to carry with you good tea, ground coffee, chocolate, wine of that sort which you like best, cider, dried raisins, almonds, sugar, capilaire, citrons, rum, eggs dipped in oil, portable soup, bread twice baked. With regard to poultry, it is almost useless to carry any with you, unless you resolve to undertake the office of feeding and fattening them yourself. With the little care which is taken of them on board a ship, they are almost all sickly, and their flesh is as tough as leather.

All sailors entertain an opinion, which undoubtedly originated formerly from a want of water, and when it has been found necessary to be sparing of it, that poultry never knew when they had drank enough, and that when water is given them at discretion, they generally kill themselves by drinking beyond measure. In consequence of this opinion, they give them water only once in two days, and even then in small quantities: but as they pour this water into troughs inclining on one side, which occasions it to run to the lower part, it thence happens that they are obliged to mount one upon the back of another in order to reach it; and there are some which cannot even dip their beaks in it. Thus continually tantalized and tormented by thirst, they are unable to digest their food, which is very dry, and they soon fall sick and die. Some of them are found thus every morning, and are thrown into the sea; while those which are killed for the table are scarcely fit to be eaten. To remedy this inconvenience, it will be necessary to divide their troughs into small compartments, in such a manner that each of them may be capable of containing water; but this is seldom or never done. On this account, sheep and hogs are to be considered as the best fresh provisions that one can have at sea; mutton there, being in general very good, and pork excellent.

It may happen that some of the provisions and stores, which I have recommended, may become almost useless, by the care which the captain has taken to lay in a proper stock: but in such a case you may dispose of it to relieve the poor passengers,

save the greatest need. By [illegible]
them a part of your superfluity, you may be of th
est assistance to them. You may restore their
save their lives, and in short render them
which always affords the liveliest sensation t
ing mind.

The most disagreeable thing at sea is the co
there is not, properly speaking, any professed
board. The worst sailor is generally chosen for t
pose, who for the most part is equally dirty. Hen
the proverb used among English sailors, that *G*
meat, and the devil sends cooks. Those, h
who have a better opinion of Providence, w
otherwise. Knowing that sea air, and the
or motion which they receive from the rollin
ship, have a wonderful effect in whetting t
tite, they will say, that Providence has give
bad cooks to prevent them from eating to
or that, knowing they would have bad cooks
given them a good appetite to prevent them
ing with hunger. However, if you have
dence, in these succours of Providence,
yourself, with a lamp and a boiler, by the
little spirits of wine, prepare some food, such
hash, &c. A small oven made of tin-plat

tly forms excellent nourishment,
hat of biscuit, which has not bee

here observe, that this double-bal
nally the real biscuit prepared t
he word *biscuit*, in French, signi
Peas often boil badly, and do no
uch a case, by putting a two-po
ettle, the rolling of the vessel, by r
, will convert the peas into a porri

often seen soup, when put upon t
broad flat dishes, thrown out on eve
lling of the vessel, I have wished t
ould make our soup-basins with di
rtments; forming small plates, pro
g soup for one person only. By th
the soup, in an extraordinary roll,
rown out of the plate, and would n
easts of those who are at table, and
ving entertained you with these thin
rtance, permit me now to conclude
al reflections upon navigation.
avigation is employed only for trans
ry provisions from one country, w
d, to another where they are wanti
is it prevents famines, which were
d so fatal before it was invented and
mon; we cannot help considering i
art which contribute most to the h
nkind. But when it is employed
gs of no utility, or articles of luxur
tain whether the advantages resul
ufficient to counter-balance the mis
oned by exposing the lives of so m
on the vast ocean. And when i
r vessels and transport slaves, i
he dreadful means of increasing th
h afflict human nature.
shed to think on the number of
o are daily exposed in going to b

---

n "bis" again, "cuit" baked.

ON LUXURY, IDLENESS, AND INDUSTRY.

rom a Letter to Benjamin Vaughan, Esq. written in 1784.

is wonderful how preposterously the affairs of world are managed. Naturally one would ima- that the interest of a few individuals should give to general interest: but individuals manage their rs with so much more application, industry, and ress, than the public do theirs, that general inter- nost commonly gives way to particular. We as- ple parliaments and councils, to have the benefit heir collected wisdom; but we necessarily have, e same time, the inconvenience of their collected ions, prejudices, and private interests. By the of these, artful men overpower their wisdom, dupe its possessors; and if we may judge by the arrests, and edicts, all the world over, for regu- g commerce, an assembly of great men is the test fool upon earth.

have not yet, indeed, thought of a remedy for ry. I am not sure that in a great state it is ca- e of a remedy; nor that the evil is in itself al- s so great as is represented. Suppose we in- e the definition of luxury all unnecessary ex- e, and then let us consider whether laws to pre- such expense are possible to be executed in a t country, and whether, if they could be executed, people generally would be a happier, or even richer. t the hope of being one day able to purchase and y luxuries a great spur to labour and industry? not luxury, therefore, produce more than it umes, if, without such a spur, people would be, ey are naturally enough inclined to be, lazy and lent. To this purpose I remember a circum-

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Member of parliament for the borough of Calne, in Wiltshire, en whom and our author there subsisted a very close friend-

congregation."—"How so?"—"
appeared with it at meeting, it w
that all the girls resolved to get
ladelphia; and my wife and I
whole could not have cost les
pounds."—"True (said the far
tell all the story. I think the c
an advantage to us; for it was th
our girls upon knitting worsted
Philadelphia, that they might
buy caps and ribbons there; and
industry has continued, and is lil
increase to a much greater value
purposes."—Upon the whole, I
to this little piece of luxury, sin
were made happier by having fi
ladelphians by the supply of wa

In our commercial towns upo
tunes will occasionally be made.
grow rich will be prudent, live
preserved what they have gained
others, fond of showing their w
vagant, and ruin themselves. I
this; and perhaps it is not alwa

ıxury may be a public evil, in the same
it is a private one. If there be a nation,
, that exports its beef and linen, to pay
rtation of claret and porter, while a great
people live upon potatoes, and wear no
rein does it differ from the sot, who lets
arve, and sells his clothes to buy drink?
ın commerce is, I confess, a little in this
ell our victuals to the islands for rum and
substantial necessaries of life for super-
t we have plenty, and live well never
ıgh by being soberer, we might be richer.
quantity of forest land we have yet to
ut in order for cultivation, will for a long
ıe body of our nation laborious and fru-
ıg an opinion of our people, and their
what is seen among the inhabitants of
s, is judging from an improper sample.
of the trading towns may be rich and
hile the country possesses all the virtues
ɔromote happiness and public prosperity.
are not much regarded by the country:
lly considered as an essential part of the
he experience of the last war has shown:
eing in the possession of the enemy did
ily draw on the subjection of the coun-
bravely continued to maintain its free-
cpendence notwithstanding.
ı computed by some political arithme-
if every man and woman would work
ıch day on something useful, that labour
ce sufficient to procure all the necessa-
forts of life; want and misery would be
of the world, and the rest of the twenty-
ight be leisure and pleasure.
asions then so much want and misery?
ıployment of men and women in works
neither the necessaries nor conve-
fe; who, with those who do nothing,
:essaries raised by the laborious. To

ements of wealth are obtained by labour
h and waters. I have land, and raise

in fiddling for me, the corn he
part of his manufacture rema
wealth and convenience of the f
fore, be the poorer for this fidd
rest of my family work more, or
the deficiency he occasions.

Look round the world, and see t
in doing nothing, or in someth
nothing, when the necessaries
life are in question. What is th
for which we fight and destroy
toil of millions for superfluities
and loss of many lives, by the co
sea? How much labour is spent
ting great ships, to go to Chir
and coffee, to the West Indies
for tobacco? These things can
cessaries of life, for our anc
fortably without them.

A question may be asked—C
now employed in raising, makin
fluities, be subsisted by raising
they might. The world is larg
it is still uncultivated. Many

among mankind exceeds the quantity of idleness and folly. Hence the increase of good buildings, farms cultivated, and populous cities filled with wealth, all over Europe, which a few ages since were only to to be found on the coast of the Mediterranean; and this notwithstanding the mad wars continually raging, by which are often destroyed in one year, the works of many years peace. So that we may hope, the luxury of a few merchants on the coast will no be the ruin of America.

One reflection more, and I will end this long rambling letter. Almost all the parts of our bodies require some expense. The feet demands shoes; the legs, stockings; the rest of the body clothing; and the belly a good deal of victuals. Our eyes, though exceedingly useful, ask when reasonable, only the cheap assistance of spectacles, which could not much impair our finances. But the eyes of other people are the eyes that ruin us. If all but myself were blind, I should want neither fine clothes, fine houses, nor fine furniture.

ON THE SLAVE TRADE.

Reading in the newspapers the speech of Mr. Jackson in congress, against meddling with the affair of slavery, or attempting to mend the condition of slaves, it put me in mind of a similar speech, made about one hundred years since, by Sidi Mahomet Ibrahim, a member of the divan of Algiers, which may be seen in Martin's account of his consulship, 1687. It was against granting the petition of the sect called *Erika*, or *Purists*, who prayed for the abolition of piracy and slavery, as being unjust--Mr. Jackson does not quote it: perhaps he has not seen it. If, therefore, some of its reasonings are to be found in his eloquent speech, it may not only show that *men's interests* operate, and are operated on

against the Christians, how shall we
with the commodities their countries p
which are so necessary for us? If w
make slaves of their people, who, in this
are to cultivate our lands? Who are to
common labours of our city, and of c
Must we not then be our own slaves?
not more compassion and more favou
Mussulmen than to those Christian dogs
now above fifty thousand slaves in and
This number, if not kept up by fresh s
soon diminish, and be gradually ann
then, we cease taking and plundering
ships, and making slaves of the seamen
gers, our lands will become of no value
cultivation; the rents of houses in the
one half; and the revenues of governi
from the share of prizes, must be totally
And for what? To gratify the whim of
sect, who would have us not only for
more slaves, but even manumit those w
who is to indemnify their masters for th
the state do it? Is our treasury sufficie
Erika do it? Can they do it? Or wou
what they think justice to the slaves, d
justice to the owners! And if we set o
what is to be done with them? Few of
to their native countries; they kno

when not compelled.—And what is there so pitiable in their present condition? Were they not slaves in their own countries? Are not Spain, Portugal, France, and the Italian states, governed by despots, who hold all their subjects in slavery, without exception? Even England treats her sailors as slaves: for they are, whenever the government pleases, seize and confined in ships of war, condemned not only to work, but to fight for small wages, or a mere subsistence, not better than our slaves are allowed by us. Is their condition then made worse by their falling into our hands? No: they have only exchanged one slavery for another; and I may say a better: for here they are brought into a land where the sun of Islamism gives forth its light, and shines in full splendour, and they have an opportunity of making themselves acquainted with the true doctrine, and thereby save their immortal souls. Those who remain at home have not that happiness. Sending the slaves home, then, would be sending them out of light into darkness.

"I repeat the question, what is to be done with them? I have heard it suggested, that they may be planted in the wilderness, where there is plenty of land for them to subsist on, and where they may flourish as a free state.—But they are, I doubt, too little disposed to labour without compulsion, as well as too ignorant to establish good government; and the wild Arabs would soon molest and destroy, or again enslave them. While serving us, we take care to provide them with every thing; and they are treated with humanity. The labourers in their own countries are, as I am informed, worse fed, lodged, and clothed. The condition of most of them is therefore already mended, and requires no further improvement. Here their lives are in safety. They are not liable to be impressed for soldiers, and forced to cut one another's Christian throats, as in the wars of their own countries. If some of the religious mad bigots who now tease us with their silly petitions, have, in a fit of blind zeal, freed their slaves, it was not generosity, it was not humanity, that moved them to the action; it was from the conscious burden of a [illegible]

faithful Musselmen, who are to enjoy it, or
fast as they conquer it. Let us then hear n
this detestable proposition, the manumi
Christian slaves, the adoption of which w
depreciating our lands and houses, and th
priving so many good citizens of their p
create universal discontent, and provoke
tions, to the endangering of government, an
ing general confusion. I have, therefore, r
that this wise council will prefer the con
happiness of a whole nation of true believe
whim of a few Erika, and dismiss their peti

The result was, as Martin tells us, that t
came to this resolution: "That the doct
the plundering and enslaving the Christians
's at best problematical: but that it is th
of this state to continue the practice, is cle
fore, let the petition be rejected."—And i
jected accordingly.

And since like motives are apt to produ
minds of men, like opinions and resolutions
not venture to predict, from this account, th
titions to the parliament of England for
the slave trade, to say nothing of other le

3SERVATIONS ON WAR.

inal laws of nations, war and extirpa-
punishment of injury. Humanizing by
mitted slavery instead of death: a far-
, the exchange of prisoners instead of
:her, to respect more the property of pri-
inder conquest, and be content with ac-
ion. Why should not this law of na-
.mproving? Ages have intervened be-
eral steps; but as knowledge of late in-
ly, why should not those steps be quick-
· should it not be agreed to, as the future
ıs, that in any war hereafter, the follow-
ɔn of men should be undisturbed, have
n of both sides, and be permitted to fol-
ɔloyments in security? viz.
ors of the earth, because they labour for
:e of mankind.
ıen, for the same reason.
nts and traders in unarmed ships, who
ɜ different nations by communicating
ging the necessaries and conveniences

and mechanics, inhabiting and working
ıs.
y necessary to add, that the hospitals
hould be unmolested—they ought to be
is for the interest of humanity in gene-
occasions of war, and the inducements
be diminished. If rapine be abolished,
:ouragements to war is taken away; and
ɔre more likely to continue and be last-

ce of robbing merchants on the high seas
of the ancient piracy—though it may be
beneficial to particular persons, is far
rofitable to all engaged in it, or to the
uthorizes it. In the beginning of a war
ips are surprised and taken. This en-
· first adventures to fit out more armed
many others to do the same. But the

overgo the gains, ...
ies, though particulars have got prizes, t
adventures are losers, the whole expense o
all the privateers during a war being m
than the whole amount of goods taken.

Then there is the national loss of all th
so many men during the time they hav
ployed in robbing; who besides spend w
in riot, drunkenness and debauchery;
habits of industry; are rarely fit for any
ness after a peace, and serve only to i
number of highwaymen and house-break
the undertakers, who have been fortun
sudden wealth led into expensive living,
which continues when the means of s
cease, and finally ruins them: a just pun
their having wantonly and unfeelingly r
honest, innocent traders and their famil
substance was employed in serving the
terests of mankind.

ON THE IMPRESS OF SEAM

Notes copied from Dr. Franklin's writi
in the margin of Judge Foster's cele

let A B C and D go out and fight for us, while we stay at home and sleep in whole skins; that is not equal, and therefore cannot be just.

Ib. "Employ."—If you please. The word signifies engaging a man to work for me, by offering him such wages as are sufficient to induce him to prefer my service. This is very different from compelling him to work on such terms as I think proper.

Ib. "This service and employment," &c.—These are false facts. His employment and service are not the same.—Under the merchant he goes in an unarmed vessel, not obliged to fight, but to transport merchandize. In the king's service he is obliged to fight, and to hazard all the dangers of battle. Sickness on board of king's ships is also more common and more mortal. The merchant's service, too, he can quit at the end of the voyage; not the king's. Also, the merchant's wages are much higher.

Ib. "I am very sensible," &c.—Here are two things put in comparison that are not comparable: viz. injury to seamen, and inconvenience to trade. Inconvenience to the whole trade of a nation will not justify injustice to a single seamen. If the trade would suffer without his service, it is able and ought to be willing to offer him such wages as may induce him to afford his service voluntarily.

Page 159. "Private mischief must be borne with patience, for preventing a national calamity." Where is this maxim in law and good policy to be found? And how can that be a maxim which is not consistent with common sense? If the maxim had been, that private mischiefs, which prevent a national calamity, ought to be generously compensated by the nation, one might understand it: but that such private mischiefs are only to be borne with patience is absurd!

Ib. "The expedient, &c. And," &c. (Paragraphs 2 and 3.)—Twenty ineffectual or inconvenient schemes will not justify one that is unjust.

Ib. "Upon the foot of &c.—Your reasoning, indeed, like a lie, stands but upon one *foot;* truth upon two.

Page 160. "Full wages."—Probably the same they had in the merchants' service.

sailor who is pressed an
defence of trade, at twent
could get three pounds fift
chants' service, you take fi
month; and if you have 100
rob this honest industrious p
poor families of 250,000l. p
lions a year, and at the sa
hazard their lives in fighting
trade; to the defence of wh
contribute (and sailors among
to their profits by it: but this
than their share, if they do not
but when you force that, meth
the other.

But, it may be said, to give t
chants' wages would cost the n
and call for more taxes. Th
amount to this: whether it be
that the richer part should comp
in defence of them and their
wages as they think fit to allow,
they refuse? Our author tells u
I have not law enough to dispute
I cannot

press captains, lieutenants, second lieutenants, midshipmen, pursers, nor many other officers. Why, but that the profits of their places, or the emoluments expected, are sufficient inducements? The business then is, to find money, by impressing sufficient to make the sailors all volunteers, as well as their officers: and this without any fresh burden upon trade. The second of my premises is, that twenty-five shillings a month, with his share of the the salt beef, pork, and peas-pudding, being found sufficient for the subsistence of a hard-working seaman, it will certainly be so for a sedentary scholar or gentleman. I would then propose to form a treasury, out of which encouragements to seamen should be paid. To fill this treasury, I would impress a number of civil officers, who at present have great salaries, oblige them to serve in their respective offices for twenty-five shillings a month with their share of mess provisions, and throw the rest of their salaries into the seamen's treasury. If such a press warrant were given me to execute, the first I would press should be a Recorder of Bristol, or a Mr. Justice Foster, because I might have need of his edifying example, to show how much impressing ought to be borne with; for he would certainly find, that though to be reduced to twenty-five shilling a month might be a "*private mischief*," yet that, agreeably to his maxim of law and good policy, it "*ought to be borne with patience*," for preventing a national calamity. Then I would press the rest of the judges; and, opening the red book, I would press every civil officer of government from 50l. a year salary up to 50,000l. which would throw an immense sum into our treasury: and these gentlemen could not complain, since they would receive twenty-five shillings a month, and their rations; and this without being obliged to fight. Lastly, I think I would impress * * *

Among the pamphlets you
entitled, *Thoughts on Exec*
for that, I send you a F
subject, *Observations con*
l'Article II. de la Declarati
both addressed to the judges
see, in a very different spirit
for hanging *all* thieves. T
portioning punishments to o

If we really believe, as w
the law of Moses was the la
Divine wisdom, infinitely
what principle do we ord
ment of an offence, which, a
only to be punished by a re
put a man to death for a
deserve death, is it not murd
writer says, *Doit-on punir*
par un crime contre la natu

Superfluous property is
Simple and mild laws wer
property that was merely
bow, his hatchet, and his

no deer of your own, and being hungry, should kill one, an infamous death must be the consequence," he would probably have preferred his liberty, and his common right of killing any deer, to all the advantages of society that might be proposed to him.

That it is better a hundred guilty persons should escape, than that one innocent person should suffer, is a maxim that has been long and generally approved; never, that I know of, controverted. Even the sanguinary author of the *Thoughts* agrees to it, adding well, "that the very thought of *injured* innocence, and much more that of *suffering* innocence, must awaken all our tenderest and most compassionate feelings, and at the same time raise our highest indignation against the instruments of it. But," he adds, "there is no danger of *either*, from a strict adherance to the laws."—Really!—is it then impossible to make an unjust law; and if the law itself be unjust, may it not be the very "instrument" which ought "to raise the author's and every body's highest indignation!" I see in the last newspapers from London, that a woman is capitally convicted at the Old Bailey, for privately stealing out of a shop some gauze, value fourteen shillings and three pence. Is there any proportion between the injury done by a theft, value fourteen shillings and three pence, and the punishment of a human creature, by death, on a gibbet? Might not that woman, by her labour, have made the reparation ordained by God in paying four fold? Is not all punishment inflicted beyond the merit of the offence, so much punishment of innocence? In this light, how vast is the annual quantity, of not only *injured* but *suffering* innocence, in almost all the civilized states of Europe!

But it seems to have been thought, that this kind of innocence may be punished by way of *preventing* crimes. I have read, indeed, of a cruel Turk, in Barbary, who whenever he bought a new Christian slave, ordered him immediately to be hung up by the legs, and to receive a hundred blows of a cudgel on the soles of his feet, that the severe sense of the punishment, and fear of incurring it thereafter, might

being asked w...
death should not pass against ...
that it was hard to hang a man for *only* s
horse, was told by the judge, "Man, thou s
be hanged *only* for stealing a horse, but th
may not be stolen." The man's answer, if
examined, will, I imagine, appear reaso
being founded on the eternal principles of ju
equity, that punishments should be propor
offences; and the judge's reply brutal and u
able, though the writer "wishes all judges t
with them whenever they go the circuit, an
it in their minds, as containing a wise reas
the penal statutes which they are called up
in execution. It at once illustrates," says
true grounds and reasons of all capital pun
whatsoever, namely, that every man's pro
well as his life, may be held sacred and i
Is there then no difference in value betwee
and life? If I think it right that the crime
should be punished with death, not only a
punishment of the crime, but to prevent
ders, does it follow that I must approve
the same punishment for a little invasion
perty by theft? If I am not myself so be
bloody-minded, and revengeful, as to k
creature for stealing from me fourteen s
threepence, how can I approve of a law
he was himself a judge,

"L'atrocité des loix en empêche l'exécution.

"Lorsque la peine est sans mesure, on est souvent obligé de lui préférer l'impunité.

"La cause de tous les relâchemens vient de l'impunité des crimes, et non de la moderation des peines."

It is said by those who know Europe generally that there are more thefts committed and punished annually in England, than in all the other nations put together. If this be so, there must be a cause or causes for such a depravity in our common people. May not one be the deficiency of justice and morality in our national government, manifested in our oppressive conduct to subjects, and unjust wars on our neighbours? View the long-persisted in, unjust monopolizing treatment of Ireland, at length acknowledged! View the plundering government exercised by our merchants in the Indies; the confiscating war made upon the American colonies; and, to say nothing of those upon France and Spain, view the late war upon Holland, which was seen by impartial Europe in no other light than that of a war of rapine and pillage; the hopes of an immense and easy prey being its only apparent, and probably its true and real motive and encouragement. Justice is as strictly due between neighbour nations, as between neighbour citizens. A highwayman is as much a robber when he plunders in a gang, as when single; and a nation that makes an unjust war is only a great gang. After employing your people in robbing the Dutch, is it strange, that, being put out of that employ by peace, they still continue robbing, and rob one another? *Piraterie*, as the French call it, or privateering, is the universal bent of the English nation, at home and abroad, wherever settled. No less than seven hundred privateers were, it is said, commissioned in the last war! These were fitted out by merchants, to prey upon other merchants, who had never done them any injury. Is there probably any of those privateering merchants of London, who were so ready to rob the merchants of Amsterdam, that would not as readily plunder another London mer-

the face to condemn [illegible]
hang up twenty of them in a morning!
puts one in mind of a Newgate anecdote.
prisoners complained, that in the nigl
had taken his buckles out of his shoes.
devil!" says another, "have we then *thi*
us? It must not be suffered. Let us sea
rogue, and pump him to death."

There is, however, one late instance c
merchant who will not profit by such ill
He was, it seems, part-owner of a shi
other owners thought fit to employ a
marque, which took a number of Fr
The booty being shared, he has now a
inquiring, by an advertisement in the
those who have suffered the loss, in or
them, as far as in him lies, restitution
scientious man is a quaker. The Sc
terians were formerly as tender; for
extant an ordinance of the town-coun
burgh, made soon after the Reformation,
the purchase of prize goods, under pain
freedom of the burgh for ever, with c
ments at the will of the magistrate; th
making prizes being contrary to good con

ar be just or unjust; he is to execute his orders.
princes, who are disposed to become tyrants,
t probably approve of this opinion, and be wil-
to establish it; but is it not a dangerous one?
e, on that principle, if the tyrant commands his
y to attack and destroy not only an unoffending
hbour nation, but even his own subjects, the ar-
is bound to obey. A negro slave, in our colonies,
g commanded by his master to rob or murder a
hbour or do any other immoral act may refuse;
the magistrate will protect him in his refusal.
slavery then of a soldier is worse than that of a
o! A conscientious officer, if not restrained by
apprehension of its being imputed to another
e, may indeed resign, rather than be employed
n unjust war; but the private men are slaves for
and they are, perhaps, incapable of judging for
nselves. We can only lament their fate, and still
e that of a sailor, who is often dragged by force
n his honest occupation, and compelled to imbrue
nands in perhaps innocent blood. But, methinks,
ell behoves merchants (men more enlightened by
r education, and perfectly free from any such force
obligation) to consider well of the justice of a war,
re they voluntarily engage a gang of ruffians to
ck their fellow-merchants of a neighbouring na-
, to plunder them of their property, and perhaps,
them and their families, if they yield it; or to
nd, maim, and murder them, if they endeavour
efend it. Yet these things are done by Christian
chants, whether a war be just or unjust; and it
hardly be just on both sides. They are done by
lish and American merchants, who, nevertheless
plain of private theft, and hang by dozens the
ves they have taught by their own example.

is high time, for the sake of humanity, that a
were put to this enormity. The United States
America, though better situated than any Euro-
an nation to make profit by privateering (most
e trade with Europe with the West Indies, pass-
before their doors) are, as far as in them lies, en-
vouring to abolish the practice, by offering in all
r treaties with other powers, an article, engag-

* This offer having been accepted by the 'ate
treaty of amity and commerce was concluded b
and the United States, containing the following
thropic article; in the formation of which Dr. F
American plenipotentiaries, was principally cono

ART. XXIII. If war should arise between
parties, the merchants of either country, then r
shall be allowed to remain nine months to collec
tle their affairs, and may depart freely, carryi
without molestation or hindrance; and all w
scholars of every faculty, cultivators of the eart
turers, and fisherman unarmed, and inhabiting u
lages, and places, and, in general, all others w
for the common subsistence and benefit of mank
to continue their respective employments, and
in their persons, nor shall their houses or good
wise destroyed, nor their fields wasted by the ar
my into whose power, by the events of war, the
but if any thing is necessary to be taken from th
armed force, the same shall be paid for at a rea
all merchant and trading vessels employed in ex
of different places, and thereby rendering the n
ces, and comforts of human life more easy to b
general, shall be allowed to pass free and unmol
the contracting powers shall grant or issue an
private armed vessels, empowering them to

MARKS CONCERNING THE SAVAGES OF NORTH AMERICA.

'AGES we call them because their manners diffe
ours, which we think the perfection of civility
hink the same of theirs.
haps if we could examine the manners o
nt nations with impartiality, we should fin
ople so rude as to be without any rules of po
ss; nor any so polite as not to have some re
of rudeness.
e Indian men when young, are hunters an
ors; when old, counsellors; for all their go
ment is by the council and advice of the sages
is no force, there are no prisons, no officers, t
el obedience, or inflict punishment. Henc
generally study oratory; the best speaker hav
e most influence. The Indian women till th
d, dress the food, nurse and bring up the chil
and preserve and hand down to posterity th
ry of public transactions. These employment
n and women are accounted natural and ho
ble. Having few artificial wants, they hav
lance of leisure for improvement in conversa
Our laborious manner of life, compared wit
, they esteem slavish and base; and the learn
which we value ourselves, they regard as fri
and useless. An instance of this occurred a
aty of Lancaster, in Pennsylvania, anno 1744
en the government of Virginia and the Six Na
After the principal business was settled, th
issioners from Virginia acquainted the Indian
speech, that there was at Williamsburgh a col
with a fund, for educating Indian youth; and i
iefs of the Six Nations would send down half
of their sons to that college, the governmen
l take care they should be well provided for
nstructed in all the learning of the white people
me of the Indian rules of politeness not to an
a public proposition the same day that it

while with you would be very expensi
are convinced, therefore, that you n
good by your proposal; and we than
But you who are wise must know, th
tions have different conceptions of th
will therefore not take it amiss, if ou
kind of education happen not to be
yours. We have had some experience
of our young people were formerly bro
colleges of the northern provinces;
structed in all your sciences; but wh
back to us, they were bad runners; ig
means of living in the woods; unable
cold or hunger; knew neither how to
take a deer, or kill an enemy; spoke
imperfectly; were therefore neither f
warriors, or counsellors: they were t
nothing. We are however not the l
your kind offer, though we decline ac
and to show our grateful sense of it if
of Virginia will send us a dozen of
will take great care of their education
in all we know, and make men of the

Having frequent occasions to hold p
them have acquired great order and d

e that would speak, rises. The rest ob-
rofound silence. When he has finished,
own, they leave him five or six minutes to
hat if he has omitted any thing he intended
as any thing to add, he may rise again and
To interrupt another, even in common con-
is reckoned highly indecent. How different
n the conduct of a polite British House of
where scarce a day passes without some cen-
at makes the speaker harse in calling to
d how different from the mode of conver-
many polite companies of Europe, where
not deliver your sentences with great rapi-
are cut off in the middle of it by the impa-
icity of those you converse with, and never
finish it!
iteness of these savages in conversation is
rried to excess; since it does not permit
ontradict or deny the truth of what is as-
their presence. By this means they, in-
d disputes; but then it becomes difficult to
r minds, or what impression you make
. The missionaries, who have attempted
them to Christianity, all complain of this
he great difficulties of their mission. The
ear with patience the truths of the gospel
to them, and give their usual tokens of
approbation: you would think they were
. No such matter—it is mere civility.
lish minister having assembled the chiefs
squehannah Indians, made a sermon to
ainting them with the principal historical
hich our religion is founded: such as the
parents by eating an apple; the com-
ist to repair the mischief; his miracles and
&c.—When he had finished, an Indian
d up to thank him. "What you have told
he, "is all very good. It is indeed bad to
. It is better to make them all into cider.
uch obliged to your kindness in coming so
us those things which you have heard from

satisfy their hunger, [illegible]
woman descend from the clo
that hill which you see yond
tains. They said to each
perhaps has smelt our broile
eat of it; let us offer some
her with the tongue: she wa
of it, and said, 'Your kindn
Come to this place after th
shall find something that w
nourishing you and your ch
rations. They did so, and
plants they had never seen l
that ancient time, have be
among us, to our great adva
hand had touched the grou
where her left hand touche
beans; and where her bac
found tobacco." The goc
with this idle tale, said, "
were sacred truths; but w
fable, fiction and falsehood
replied, "My brother, it se
done you justice in your
"[illegible] you in the

purpose we hide behind bushes, where you are to pass, and never intrude ourselves into your company."

Their manner of entering one another's village, has likewise its rules. It is reckoned uncivil in travelling strangers to enter a village abruptly, without giving notice of their approach. Therefore, as soon as they arrive within hearing, they stop and halloo, remaining there till invited to enter. Two old men usually come out to them and lead them in. There is in every village a vacant dwelling, called the strangers house. Here they are placed, while the old men go round from hut to hut, acquainting the inhabitants that strangers are arrived, who are probably hungry and weary, and every one sends them what he can spare of victuals, and skins to repose on. When the strangers are refreshed, pipes and tobacco are brought: and then, but not before, conversation begins, with inquiries who they are, whither bound, what news, &c. and it usually ends with offers of service, if the strangers have occasion for guides, or any necessaries for continuing their journey; and nothing is exacted for the entertainment.

The same hospitality, esteemed among them as a principal virtue, is practised by private persons; of which Conrad Weiser, our interpreter, gave me the following instance. He had been naturalized among the Six Nations, and spoke well the Mohuck language. In going through the Indian country, to carry a message from our governor to the council at Onondaga, he called at the habitation of Canassetego, an old acquaintance, who embraced him, spread furs for him to sit on, placed before him some boiled beans and venison, and mixed some rum and water for his drink. When he was well refreshed, and had lit his pipe, Canassetego began to converse with him: asked him how he had fared the many years since they had seen each other, whence he then came, what occasioned the journey, &c. Conrad answered all his questions; and when the discourse began to flag, the Indian, to continue it, said, "Conrad, you have lived long among the white people, and know something of their customs; I have been sometimes at Albany, and have observed, that once in seven days

ir shops, and assemble all in the
me what it is for? What do they
ey meet there," says Conrad, "to
od things?" "I do not doubt," says
t they tell you so, they have told
t I doubt the truth of what they
l you my reasons. I went lately to
ny skins and buy blankets, knives,
c. You know I used generally to
Hanson; but I was a little inclined
ome other merchants. However, I
Hans, and asked him what he would
He said he could not give more than
pound: but, says he, I cannot talk
; this is the day when we meet to-
od things, and I am going to meet-
ht to myself, since I cannot do any
may as well go to the meeting too,
him There stood up a man in
to talk to the people very angrily.
taud what he said: but, perceiving
ich at me, and at Hanson, I imagin-
at seeing me there; so I went out,
house, struck fire and lit my pipe.
meeting should break up. I thought
had mentioned something of beaver;

of our cabins, we all treat him as I do you; him if he is wet, we warm him if he is cold, him meat and drink, that he may allay his of hunger; and we spread soft furs for him id sleep on: we demand nothing in return." go into a white man's house at Albany, and ictuals and drink, they say, Where is your and if I have none, they say, Get out, you g. You see that they have not learned those *d things* that we need no meetings to be in-in, because our mothers taught them us were children; and therefore it is impos-ir meetings should be, as they say, for any pose, or have any such effect; they are only ve *the cheating of Indians in the price of*

---

emarkable that, in all ages and countries, hospitality has id as the virtue of those, whom the civilized were pleased arians; the Greeks celebrated the Scythians for it; the ssessed it eminently; and it is to this day the reigning he wild Arabs. St. Paul, too, in the relation of his l ship-wreck, on the island of Melita, says, "The bar-ple showed us no little kindness; for they kindled a fire, d us every one, because of the present rain, and because d." This note is taken from a small collection of Frank-; printed for Dilly.

I SEE, with pleasure, that
alike on the subjects of Englis
colonies have never insisted t
empt from contributing to the
cessary to support the prospe
only assert, that having parli
not having representatives in t
parliaments are the only judg
what we ought to contribute
the English parliament has n
ney without our consent. I
is not a single state; it co
though the parliament of Gr
to itself the power of taxin
more right to do so, then it h
have the same king, but not

The dispute between the
lost England many millions
in its commerce, and Am
been a proportionable gai
sisted principally of super
and fashion, which we car
resolution we have forme
grievances are redres

son of the Conduct of the Ancient Jews.
e Antifederalists in the United States of

s advocate for the proposed Federal Con-
a certain public assembly said, that "the
of great part of mankind to good govern-
ich, that he believed that if an angel from
s to bring down a constitution formed
ar use, it would nevertheless meet with
osition."—He was reproved for the sup-
vagance of the sentiment; and he did not
Probably it might not have immediately
) him, that the experiment had been
that the event was recorded in the most
ll histories, the Holy Bible; otherwise he
seems to me, have supported his opinion
xceptionable authority.
reme Being had been pleased to nourish
family, by continued acts of his attentive
, until it became a great people: and hav-
d them from bondage by many miracles
by his servant Moses, he personally de-
that chosen servant, in presence of the
on, a constitution and code of laws for
vance; accompanied and sanctioned with
f great rewards, and threats of severe
ts, as the consequence of their obedience
ence.
stitution, though the Deity himself was to
ad (and it is therefore called by political
heocracy) could not be carried into execu-
means of his ministers: Aaron and his
commissioned to be, with Moses, the first
ministry of the new government.
ld have thought, that the appointment of
had distinguished themselves in procuring
of their nation, and had hazarded their
enly opposing the will of a powerful mo-
would have retained that nation in sla-
t have been an appointment acceptable to

ment, ...

Many still retained an aff... of their nativity; and these, inconvenience or hardship, t unavoidable effect of their cl claimed against their leaders trouble: and were not only fo but for stoning their deliverer idolatry were displeased that destroyed. Many of the chief stitution might be injurious to ests, that the profitable places *the families and friends of J* others equally well born exc and the Talmud, we learn so fully narrated in the Scriptu " that Korah was ambitious offended that it was confer as he said, by the authority *the consent of the people.* H ing, by various artificers, fr government, and deprived ties; and of conspiring wit tyranny in their family. T motive was the supplanting

upon us by the Egyptians, and shall we ırselves to be made slaves by Moses? If we re a master, it were better to return to Pha- ıo at least fed us with bread and onions, than this new tyrant, who by his operations has ıs into danger of famine.' Then they called on the *reality of his conferences* with God; cted to the privacy of the meeting, and the ıg any of the people from being present at ıquies, or even approaching the place, as of great suspicion. They accused Moses al- *ulation;* as embezzling part of the golden nd the silver chargers, that the princes had t the dedication of the altar,* and the offer- old by the common people,† as well as most ıll-tax;‡ and Aaron they accused of pocket- ı of the gold of which he pretended to have molten calf. Besides peculation, they charg- s with ambition; to gratify which passion, they said, deceived the people, by promising them to a land flowing with milk and honey: of doing which, he had brought them from and; and that he thought light of all this , provided he could make himself an abso- ıce.‖ That to support the new dignity with ır in his family, the partial poll-tax already ıd given to Aaron¶ was to be followed by a ge- ;,** which would probably be augmented from ime, if he were suffered to go on promulgat- laws on pretence of new occasional revela- the Divine will, till their whole fortunes were d by that aristocracy."

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ers, chap. vii.

s chap. xxxv. ver. 22.

ers, chap. iii. and Exodus, chap. xxx.

ers, chap. xvi. ver. 13. "Is it a small thing that thou ht us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey, to kill wilderness, except that thou make thyself altogether a r us!"

mbers, chap. iii. ** Exodus, chap. xxx.

is so readi
by knaves, as the accusat

In fine, no less than tw
principal men, "famous i
renown,"† heading and
them up to such a pitch
out, Stone 'em, stone 'en
liberties; and let us chos
may lead us back into Egy
ceed in reducing the Canaa

On the whole, it appears
people jealous of their new
jealousy was in itself no fa
suffered it to be worked upo
ing public good, with noth
private interest, they were le
ment of the new constitutio
upon themselves much incon
It farther appears from the s
that when, after many ages,
come old and much abused,
it was proposed, the popula
Moses of the ambition of m
and cried out, Stone him, sto
their high priests and

To conclude, I beg I may not be understood
that our general covention was divinely i
when it formed the new federal constitution,
because that constitution has been unreasona
vehemently opposed; yet I must own, I have
faith in the general government of the world
vidence, that I can hardly conceive a transa
such momentous importance to the welfare
lions now existing, and to exist in the poster
great nation, should be suffered to pass withou
in some degree influenced, guided, and gove
that omnipotent, omnipresent, and benencen
in whom all inferior spirits live, and move, a
their being.

NAUTICAL AFFAIRS.

Though Britain bestows more attention
then any other nation, and though it be the
opinion, that the safety of their state depen
her navy alone; yet it seems not a little extrao
that most of the great improvements in ship-
have originated abroad. The best sailing v
the royal navy have in general been Frenc
This, though it may admit of exceptions, ca
upon the whole disputed.

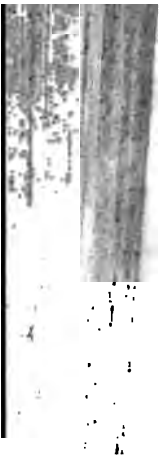
Nor is Britain entirely inattentive to nava
tecture; though it is no where scientifically
and those who devise improvements have se
opportunity of bringing them into practice.
pity it is, that no contrivance should be adop
concentrating the knowledge that different n
als attain in this art, into one common focu
expression may be admitted. Our endeavo
not be wanting, to collect together, in the b
we can, the scattered hints that shall occu
read, not doubting but the public will rec

work. In France, the art of
long been a favourite study, an
in that branch have originate
the last of the Frenchmen, wh
siderable improvement in this
who has constructed a vessel
rivers, where the depth of wa
and that yet was capable of b
with great ease. This he effect
by the particular mode of rig
mariners much greater power
they could have when of the usu

I do not hear that this impr
case been adopted in Britain.
that would result from having
draught of water to sail with
and to lie equally near the wind,
is sharper built, are so obvious,
have been desirous of falling up
fect it. About London, this has
means of *lee boards* (a contrivanc
known as not to require to be he
cribed) and not without effect.
ject to certain inconveniences, tha
them in many

be at the same time very simple and extremely efficacious. Necessity, in this case, as in many others, was the mother of invention. He had a small, flat, ill-built boat, which was so ill constructed as scarcely to admit of carrying a bit of sail on any occasion, and which was at the same time so heavy to be rowed, that he found great difficulty in using it for his ordinary occasions. In reflecting on the means that might be adopted for giving this useless cable such a hold of the water as to admit of his employing a sail when he found it necessary, it readily occurred that a greater depth of keel would have this tendency. But a greater depth of keel, though it would have been useful for this purpose, he easily foresaw, would make his boat be extremely inconvenient on many other occasions. To effect both purposes, he thought of adopting a moveable keel, which would admit of being let down or taken up at pleasure. This idea he immediately carried into effect, by fixing a bar of iron of the depth he wanted, along each side of the keel, moving upon hinges that admitted of being moved in one direction, but which could not be bent back in the opposite direction. Thus, by means of a small chain fixed to each end, these moveable keels could be easily lifted up at pleasure; so that when he was entering into a harbour, or shoal water, he had only to lift up his keels, and the boat was as capable of being managed there, as if he had wanted them entirely; and when he went out to sea, where there was depth enough, by letting them down, the lee keel took a firm hold of the water, (while the other floated loose) and gave such a steadiness to all its movements, as can scarcely be conceived by those who have not experienced it.

This gentleman one day carried me out with him in his boat to try it. We made two experiments. At first, with a moderate breeze, when the moveable keels were kept up, the boat when laid as near the wind as it could go, made an angle with the wake of about thirty degrees; but when the keels were let down, the same angle did not exceed five or six degrees; being nearly parallel with the course.



down, we could scarcely, i
vanced one foot for her thre

It is unnecessary to point o
nefits that may be derived
certain circumstances, as th
to them.

NORTH-WEST

Notwithstanding the many
nave been made to discover
into the South Seas, it would
ant geographical question is
for at a meeting of the Academ
held on the 13th of November
geographer to the king, read
cerning the north-west passag
an intelligent captain of a ve
Spain, charged with the care of
favourable to the marine, has m
nation of the archives of seven
he has found the relation of a
year 1598 by Lorenzo Herrero d
it appear

cording to M. Bauche, between William's Sound and Mount St. Elias. The Russians and Captain Cook have not observed it, because it is very narrow. But it is to be wished, that this important discovery should be verified, which has been overlooked for two centuries, in spite of the attempts which have been made on these coasts. M. Bauche calls this passage the Straits of Ferrer.

POSITIONS TO BE EXAMINED.

1. All food, or subsistence from mankind, arises from the earth or waters.

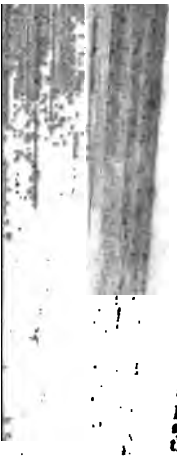
2. Necessaries of life that are not foods, and all other conveniences, have their value estimated by the proportion of food consumed while we are employed in procuring them.

3. A small people with a large territory, may subsist on the productions of nature, with no other labour than that of gathering the vegetables and catching the animals.

4. A large people with a small territory, find these insufficient; and, to subsist, must labour the earth, to make it produce greater quantities of vegetable food, suitable to the nourishment of men, and of the animals they intend to eat.

5. From this labour arises a great increase of vegetable and animal food, and of materials for clothing; as flax, wool, silks, &c. The superfluity of these is wealth. With this wealth we pay for the labour employed in building our houses, cities, &c. which are therefore only subsistence thus metamorphosed.

6. Manufactures are only another shape into which so much provisisons and subsistence are turned, as were in value equal to the manufacture produced. This appears from hence, that the manufacturer does not, in fact, obtain from the employer, for his labour, more than a mere subsistence, the ma-



charge to raise a bushel
France to produce four gall
gallons of wine the fair e
wheat, A and B meeting a
commodities to make the ex
of this fair commerce is, tha
number of his enjoyments,
alone, or wine alone, the
wine.

9. Where the labour and
both commodities are known
will generally be fair and e
known to one party only, ba
equal, knowledge taking its ad

10. Thus he that carries a
wheat abroad to sell, may n
great a profit thereon, as if h
wheat into manufactures, by
the workmen while producing
since there are many expedit
methods of working, not ge
strangers to the manufactures,
pretty well the expense of raisi
quainted with those short metho
thence, being

›rked into lace, yet the very cause of its
orth twenty shillings is that, besides the
as cost nineteen shillings and sixpence in
ce to the manufacturer. But the advan-
manufactures, is, that, under their shape,
s may be more easily carried to a foreign
and by their means our traders may more
eat strangers. Few, where it is not made,
s of the value of lace. The importer may
forty, and perhaps get thirty shillings for
:h cost him but twenty.

nally, there seems to be but three ways for
to acquire wealth. The first is by war, as
ians did, in plundering their conquered
rs; this is robbery.—The second by com-
which is generally cheating.—The third by
re, the only honest way, wherein a man re-
real increase of the seed thrown into the
ı a kind of continued miracle, wrought by
of God in his favour, as a reward for his
life and his virtuous industry.

B. FRANKLIN.

I HAVE heard, that nothing gives an a
pleasure as to find his works respectfu
other learned authors. This pleasure I h
joyed; for though I have been, if I may
vanity, an eminent author (of Alman
now a full quarter of a century, my b
in the same way (for what reason I kn
ever been very sparing in their appla
other author has taken the least notice o
did not my writings produce me some
the great deficiency of praise would h
couraged me.

I concluded, at length, that the pe
best judges of my merit, for they bu
and, besides, in my rambles, where I a
ally known, I have frequently heard o
my adages repeated, with "as poor R
at the end on't. This gave me some s
it showed not only that my instruction
ed, but discovered likewise some respo
thority; and I own, that to encourage
remembering and repeating those wis
have sometimes quoted myself with gr

ntry? How shall we be ever able to pay them? at would you advise us to?" Father Abraham d up, and replied,—"If you'd have my advice, give it to you in short; 'for a word to the wise is ugh; and many words wont fill a bushel,' as poor hard says." They joined in desiring him to speak mind; and, gathering round him, he proceeded as ows:

Friends (says he) and neighbours, the taxes are ed very heavy; and if those laid on by the go- ment were the only ones we had to pay, we ht more easily discharge them; but we have ma- others, and much more grievous to some of us. are taxed twice as much by our idleness, three s as much by our pride, and four times as much our folly; and from these taxes the commission- cannot ease or deliver us, by allowing an abate- nt. However, let us hearken to good advice, and ething may be done for us; 'God helps them help themselves,' as poor Richard says in his anac.

It would be thought a hard government that uld tax its people one-tenth part of their time, to mployed in its service; but idleness taxes many s much more, if we reckon all that is spent in ab- te sloth, or doing of nothing, with that which is nt in idle employments, or amusements that ount to nothing. Sloth, by bringing on diseases, olutely shortens life. 'Sloth, like rust, consumes er than labour wears, while the key often used is ays bright,' as poor Richard says. 'But dost u love life? then do not squander time, for that's stuff life is made of,' as poor Richard says. How ch more than is necessary do we spend in sleep! getting, that 'the sleeping fox catches no poultry, that there will be sleeping enough in the grave,' poor Richard says. 'If time be of all things the st precious, wasting time must be (as poor Rich- says) the greatest prodigality;' since, as he else- ere tells us, 'Lost time is never found again; and at we call time enough, always proves little ugh.' Let us then up and be doing, and doing to purpose: so by diligence shall we do more with

[illegible] to bed, and e[illegible]
Makes a man health[illegible]

"So what sign'fies wis[illegible]
times? We make these t[illegible]
selves. 'Industry needs [illegible]
says; 'He that lives up[illegible]
'There are no gains witho[illegible]
for I have no lands; or i[illegible]
taxed;' and, (as poor R[illegible]
'He that hath a trade hat[illegible]
hath a calling hath an offic[illegible]
but then the trade must be [illegible]
well followed, or neither th[illegible]
enable us to pay our taxes.[illegible]
we shall never starve; for,[illegible]
'At the working-man's hou[illegible]
dares not enter.' Nor will t[illegible]
ble enter; for, 'Industry pa[illegible]
creaseth them,' says poor R[illegible]
you have found no treasure, [illegible]
left you a legacy? 'Diligenc[illegible]
luck,' as poor Richard says.[illegible]
things to industry: then ploug[illegible]
sleep, and you will [illegible]

day; 'Let not the sun look down, and say, Inglorious here he lies!' Handle your tools without mittens; remember, that 'the cat in gloves catches no mice,' as poor Richard says. It is true, there is much to be done, and perhaps you are weak-handed; but stick to it steadily, and you will see great effects; for, 'continual dropping wears away stones, and by diligence and patience the mouse ate into the cable; and light strokes fell great oaks,' as poor Richard says in his Almanac, the year I cannot just now remember.

"Methinks I hear some of you say, 'must a man afford himself no leisure?'—I will tell thee, my friend, what poor Richard says: 'Employ thy time well, if thou meanest to gain leisure; and since thou art not sure of a minute, throw not away an hour.' Leisure is time for doing something useful: this leisure the diligent man will obtain, but the lazy man never; so that, as poor Richard says, 'A life of leisure and a life of laziness are two things.' Do you imagine that sloth will afford you more comfort than labour? No; for, as poor Richard says, 'Troubles spring from idleness, and grievous toils from needless ease: many without labour would live by their own wits only; but they break for want of stock.' Whereas industry gives comfort, and plenty, and respect. 'Fly pleasures, and they'll follow you; the diligent spinner has a large shift; and, now I have a sheep and a cow, every body bids me good-morrow;' all which is well said by poor Richard.

"But with our industry, we must likewise be steady, and settled, and careful, and oversee our own affairs with our own eyes, and not trust too much to others; for, as poor Richard says,

'I never saw an oft-removed tree,
Nor yet an oft-removed family,
That throve so well as one that settled be.'

"And, again, 'Three removes are as bad as a fire,' and again, 'Keep thy shop, and thy shop will keep thee;' and again, 'If you would have your business done, go; if not, send.' And again,

is the ruin of many:
the affairs of the wor
but by the want of it;
fitable; for, saith poo
dious, and riches to th
to the bold, and heave
ther, 'If you would ha
that you like, serve you
eth to circumspection a
matters, because some
breed great mischief;' a
the shoe was lost; for w
lost: and for want of
being overtaken and slai
of care about a horse-sho

"So much for industry
to one's own business;
frugality, if we would m
tainly successful. A man
to save as he gets 'keep
grindstone, and die not w
fat kitchen makes a lea
says; and,

"Away than with your expensive follies, and you
:ill not have much cause to complain of hard times,
eavy taxes and chargeable families; for, as poor
'ick says,

"Women and wine, game and deceit,
Make the wealth small, and the want great.'

"And, farther, 'What maintains one vice, woul
ing up two children.' You may think, perhaps,
at a little tea, or a little punch now and then, die
little more costly, clothes a little finer, and a little
ntertainment now and then, can be no great matter;
it remember what poor Richard says, 'Many a lit-
e makes a meikle;' and farther, 'Beware of little
xpenses; a small leak will sink a great ship;' and
gain, 'Who dainties love, shall beggars prove;' and,
oreover, 'Fools make feasts, and wise men eat
em.'

"Here you are all got together at this sale of fine-
es and nicknacks. You call them *goods;* but if
ou do not take care, they will prove *evils* to some of
ou. You expect they will be sold cheap, and per-
ps they may for less than they cost; but if you
ave no occasion for them, they must be dear to you.
emember what poor Richard says, 'Buy what thou
ast no need of, and ere long thou shalt sell thy ne-
ssaries.' And again, 'At a great pennyworth pause
while.' He means, that perhaps the cheapness is
pparent only, or not real; or the bargain, by strait-
ing thee in thy business, may do thee more harm
an good. For in another place he says, 'Many
ave been ruined by buying good pennyworths.'—
gain, as poor Richard says, 'It is foolish to lay out
oney in a purchase of repentance;' and yet this
lly is practised every day at auctions, for want of
inding the Almanac. 'Wise men (as poor Dick says)
arn by others harms, fools scarcely by their own;
it *Felix quam faciunt aliena pericula cautum.*'—
any a one, for the sake of finery on the back, have
ne with a hungry belly, and half starved their fa-
ilies: 'Silk and satins, scarlet and velvets, (as
oor Richard says) put out the kitchen fire.' These

despised, b
frugality, have maint
ease, it appears plain
higher than a gentlem
ard says. Perhaps th
them, which they knew
'It is day, and will ne
spent out of so much, i
and a fool (as poor R
shillings and twenty y
always be taking out o
ting in, soon comes to t
says, 'When the well
of water.' But this th
if they had taken his
the value of money, go
he that goes a borrowin
deed, so does he that le
goes to get it in again.'
and says,

'Fond pride of dress is
Ere fancy you consult

'Vessels large may venture more,
But little boats should keep near shore.'

'Tis, however, a folly soon punished; for, 'Pride hat dines on vanity, sups on contempt,' as poor Richard says. And in another place, 'Pride breakfasted with Plenty, dined with Poverty and supped with Infamy.' And, after all, of what use is this pride of appearance, for which so much is risked, so much is suffered? It cannot promote health, or ease pain, it makes no increase of merit in the person; it hastens misfortune.

'What is a butterfly? at best,
He's but a caterpillar drest;
The gaudy fop's his picture just,'

as poor Richard says.

"But what madness must it be to run in debt for these superfluities! We are offered by the terms of this sale six months' credit; and that perhaps has induced some of us to attend it, because we cannot spare the ready money, and hope now to be fine without it. But, ah! think what you do when you run in debt. You give to another power over your liberty. If you cannot pay at the time, you will be ashamed to see your creditor: you will be in fear when you speak to him; you will make poor, pitiful, sneaking excuses, and by degrees come to lose your veracity, and sink into base downright lying; for, as poor Richard says, 'The second vice is lying; the first is running in debt.' And again, to the same purpose, 'Lying rides upon debt's back;' whereas a free-born Englishman ought not to be ashamed nor afraid to speak to any man living—But poverty often deprives a man of all spirit and virtue: 'It is hard for an empty bag to stand upright,' as poor Richard truly says. What would you think of that prince, or that government, who would issue an edict, forbidding you to dress like a gentleman or gentlewoman, on pain of imprisonment or servitude? Would you not say, that you were free, have a right to dress as you please, and that such an edict would

better memories than debt
he says, 'Creditors are
observers of set days an
round before you are awar
before you are prepared to
your debt in mind, the ter
long, will as it lessens, app
will seem to have added w
at his shoulders. 'Those
poor Richard) who owe m
Then since, as he says, '
the lender, and the debtor
the chain, preserve your fr
independency: be industr
and free. At present, perh
selves in thriving circums
bear a little extravagance

'For age and want sa
No morning sun lasts a

as poor Richard says. Ga
uncertain; but ever, while
stant and certain: and 'i

is doctrine, my friends, is reason and wisdom: after all, do not depend too much upon your own stry and frugality, and prudence, though excel- things; for they may be blasted, without the ing of Heaven: and therefore ask that blessing bly, and be not uncharitable to those that at pre- seem to want it, but comfort and help them. Re- ber Job suffered, and was afterwards pros- us.

And now, to conclude, 'Experience keeps a dear ol; but fools will learn in no other, and scarce at; for it is true, we may give advice, but we ot give conduct,' as poor Richard says. How- , remember this, 'They that will not be coun- d, cannot be helped,' as poor Richard says; and, er, that 'If you will not hear Reason, she will y rap your knuckles.'"

us the old gentleman ended his harrangue. people heard it, and approved the doctrine, and ediately practised the contrary, just as if it had a common sermon; for the auction opened, they began to buy extravagantly, notwithstand- ll his cautions, and their own fear of taxes. I d the good man had thoroughly studied my Al- acs, and digested all I had dropped on those s, during the course of twenty-five years. The ent mention he made of me, must have tired y one else; but my vanity was wonderfully de- ed with it, though I was conscious that not a part of the wisdom was my own, which he as- d to me, but rather the gleanings that I had made e sense of all ages and nations. However, I re- d to be the better for the echo of it; and though I first determined to buy stuff for a new coat, I away, resolved to wear my old one a little lon- Reader, if thou wilt do the same, thy profit will great as mine.

I am, as ever, thine to serve thee,

RICHARD SAUNDERS.

Being a true Description
of that v

THERE is a tradition,
England, the first settle
and hardships: as is g
lized people attempt
wilderness country.
sought relief from Hea
distresses before the
fasting and prayer.
course on these subjec
discontented; and, li
were many disposed
persecution had indu
when it was propos
another fast, a far
marked, that the in
concerning which th
with their complain
have expected, and
the colony strength

y to this they have, in every year, observed
mstances of public felicity sufficient to furnish
yment for a thanksgiving day; which is there
nstantly ordered and religiously observed.
I see in the public newspapers of different Sta
quent complaints of *hard times, deadness of tra*
rcity of money, &c. &c. It is not my intent
assert or maintain that these complaints are ent
without foundation. There can be no country
ion existing, in which there will not be some p
so circumstanced as to find it hard to gain a li
ood; people, who are not in the way of
fitable trade, with whom money is scarce,
ise they have nothing to give in exchange for
I it is always in the power of a small num
make a great clamour. But let us take a c
w of the general state of our affairs, and p
os the prospect will appear less gloomy than
m imagined.
The great business of the continent is agricultu
r one artizan, or merchant, I suppose we have
st one hundred farmers, by far the greatest p
tivators of their own fertile lands, from whe
ny of them draw not only food necessary for th
sistence, but the materials of their clothing, so
need very few foreign supplies: while they hav
plus of productions to dispose of, whereby we
gradually accumulated. Such has been the go
s of Divine Providence to these regions, and
ourable the climate, that, since the three or f
rs of hardship in the first settlement of our fath
e, a famine or scarcity has never been heard
ongst us; on the contrary, though some years n
e been more, and others less plentiful, there h
ays been provision enough for ourselves, and
ntity to spare for exportation. And although
ps of last year were generally good, never was
ner better paid for the part he can spare co
rce, as the published price currents abundan
ify. The lands he possesses are also continua
ng in value with the increase of population; a
the whole, he is enabled to give such good wa
hose *who work* for him, that all who are acqu

ployment to an abundance of workme
the increased luxury and splendour o
inhabitants thus made richer. Thes
demand and obtain much higher w
other part of the world would afford
paid in ready money. This rank of p
do not, or ought not, to complain of ha
they make a very consiserable part of
bitants.

At the distance I live from our
eries, I cannot speak of them with any
tainty; but I have not heard that th
valuable race of men employed in them
or that they met with less success, than
volution. The whale-men indeed ha
ed of one market for their oil, but and
opening for them, which it is hoped ma
vantageous; and the demand is cons
ing for their spermaceti candles, which
a much higher price than formerly.

There remain the merchants and
Of these, though they make but a sn
whole nation, the number is consider
indeed for the business they are empl

leading easier lives, turn shopkeepers, the whole natural quantity of that business divided among them all may afford too small a share for each, and occasion complaints that trading is dead: these may also suppose that it is owing to scarcity of money, while, in fact, it is not so much from the fewness of buyers, as from the excessive number of sellers, that the mischief arises; and, if every shopkeeping farmer and mechanic would return to the use of his plough, and working tools, there would remain of widows and other women, shop-keepers sufficient for the business, which might then afford them a comfortable maintenance.

Whoever has travelled through the various parts of Europe, and observed how small is the proportion of people in affluence or easy circumstances there, compared with those in poverty and misery; the few rich and haughty landlords, the multitude of poor, abject, rack-rented, tythe-paying tenants, and half-paid and half-starved ragged labourers; and views here the happy mediocrity that so generally prevails throughout these States, where the cultivator works for himself, and supports his family in decent plenty; will methinks, see abundant reason to bless Divine Providence for the evident and great difference in our favour, and be convinced that no nation known to us enjoy a greater share of human felicity.

It is true, that in some of the States there are parties and discords; but let us look back, and ask if we were ever without them? Such will exist wherever there is liberty; and perhaps they help to preserve it. By the collision of different sentiments, sparks of truth are struck out, and political light is obtained. The different factions, which at present divide us aim all at the public good; the differences are only about the various modes of promoting it. Things, actions, measures, and objects of all kinds, present themselves to the minds of men in such a variety of lights, that it is not possible we should all think alike at the same time on every subject, when hardly the same man retains at all times the same ideas of it. Parties are therefore the common lot of humanity; and ours are by no means more mischievous or less benefici

to ruin. They [illegible]
without economy, and th
come of a whole people fr
of their country may be d
less expenses; and pov
place of affluence. This
ever, rarely happens; fo
nation a greater proporti
which tend to enrich, th
ity, which occasion pove
there is a continual a
Spain, Gaul, Germany, a
the Romans, inhabited
our savages, and consi
present possess, in nu
proved farms, rich m
with valuable manufact
jewels and coined mon
ing their bad, wasteful,
their mad destructive
travagant living has n
those countries. Ther
of industrious frugal
parts of these Ameri
[illegible] of our nation co

nportations, and thereby grow richer:—if, in which may admit of dispute, the desire of ng ourselves with fine clothes, possessing fine ire, with elegant houses, &c. is not, by strong ting to labour and industry, the occasion of ing a greater value than is contn ued in the ation of that desire.

agriculture and fisheries of the United States great sources of our increasing wealth. He its a seed into the earth is recompensed, per y receiving forty out of it, and he who draws ut of our water draws up a piece of silver.

is (and there is no doubt but we shall) be at to these, and then the power of rivals, with ir restraining and prohibiting acts, cannot urt us. We are sons of the earth and sea, se Antæus in the fable, if in wrestling with a es, we now and then receive a fall, the touch parents will communicate to us fresh strength our to renew the contest.

Many persons in Eu
ters, expressed to the
quainted with North A
porting and establishin
but who appear to ha
mistaken ideas and ex
tained there; he think
inconvenient, expensi
voyages of improper
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He finds it is imag
habitants of North A
warding, and disposed
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ces, and consequently
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themselves; that th
fitable offices to be d
not qualified to fill;
[illegible] among them.

people so miserable as the poor of Europe, there also very few that in Europe would be called : it is rather a general happy mediocrity that ails. There are few great proprietors of the soil, few tenants; most people cultivate their own s, or follow some handicraft or merchandise: few rich enough to live idly upon their rents or nes, or to pay the high prices given in Europe painting, statutes, architecture, and the other s of art that are more curious than useful. e the natural genuises that have arisen in Ame- with such talents, have uniformly quitted that try for Europe, where they can be more suitably rded. It is true that letters and mathematical vledge are in esteem there, but they are at the same more common than is apprehended; their being dy existing nine colleges, or universities, viz. four ew England, and one in each of the provinces of York, New Jersy, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and inia—all furnished with learned professors; be- a number of smaller acadamies: these edu- many of their youth in the languages, and those ices that qualify men for the professions of divi- law or physic. Strangers, indeed, are by no s excluded from exercising those professions: the quick increase of inhabitants every where them a chance of employ, which they have in non with the natives. Of civil offices or em- ments, there are few; no superflous ones, as urope; and it is a rule established in some of the s, that no office should be so profitable as to it desirable. The 36th article of the constitu- of Pennsylvania runs expressly in these words. every freeman, to preserve his independence (if as not a sufficient estate,) ought to have some ssion, calling, trade, or farm, whereby he may stly subsist, there can be no necessity for, nor n establishing, offices of profit; the usual effects hich are dependence and servility; unbecoming nen, in the possessors and expectants; faction, ention, corruption, and disorder among the peo- Wherefore, whenever an office, through in-

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other quality to r
Europe it has ind
ty that cannot be
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cerning a stranger,
If he has any usef
exercises it, and be
all that know him
on that account w
some office or salary
ed. The husbandm
the mechanic, becau
The people have a s
self a mechanic, the
is respected and adm
nuity, and utility of
the antiquity of his fa
the observation of a n
that Boccarorra (mea
black man workee, ma
ox workee, make eber
He, de hog, no

others, mere *fruges consumere nati*,* and otherwise *good* for *nothing*, till by their death their estates, like the carcass of the negro's gentleman-hog, come to be *cut up*.

With regard to the encouragements for strangers from government, they are really only what are derived from good laws and liberty. Strangers are welcome, because there is room enough for them all, and therefore the old inhabitants are not jealous of them; the laws protect them sufficiently, so that they have no need of the patronage of great men; and every one will enjoy securely the profits of his industry. But if he does not bring a fortune with him he must work and be industrious to live. One or two years residence give him all the rights of a citizen; but the government does not at present, whatever it may have done in former times, hire people to become settlers, by paying their passage, giving land, negroes, utensils, stock, or any other kind of emolument whatsoever. In short, America is the land of labour, and by no means what the English call *Lubberland*, and the French *Pays de Cocagne*, where the streets are said to be paved with half-peck loaves, the houses tiled with pancakes, and where the fowls fly about ready roasted, crying, *Come eat me!*

Who then are the kind of persons to whom an emigration to America may be advantageous? And what are the advantages they may reasonably expect?

Land being cheap in that country, from the vast forests still void of inhabitants, and not likely to be occupied in an age to come, insomuch that the property of an hundred acres of fertile soil, full of wood, may be obtained near the frontiers, in many places, for eight or ten guineas, hearty young labouring men, who understand the husbandry of corn and cattle, which is nearly the same in that country as in Europe, may easily establish themselves there. A little money, saved of the good wages they receive there while they work for others, enables them to buy the

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* . . . . . born
Merely to eat up the corn. Waller.

born.

From the salubri
climate, the plenty
couragement to ea
subsistence in culti
inhabitants by natu
America, and becon
of strangers: hence
more artisans of all
to supply those culti
and with furniture a
which cannot so well
lerably good workmen
are sure to find employ
work, there being no
from exercising any a
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first as servants or journ
industrious, and frugal,
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lies, and become respect

Also persons of mode
who having a number of
desirous of bringing them
cure estate

sylvania, for ten pounds per hundred acres, which, after twenty years, when the settlements had been extended far beyond them, sold readily, without any improvement made upon them, for three pounds per acre. The acre in America is the same with the English acre, or the acre of Normandy.

Those who desire to understand the state of government in America, would do well to read the constitutions of the several States, and the articles of confederation which bind the whole together for general purposes, under the direction of one Assembly, called the Congress. These constitutions have been printed, by order of Congress, in America; two editions of them have been printed in London; and a good translation of them into French, has lately been published at Paris.

Several of the princes of Europe having of late, from an opinion of advantage to arise by producing all commodities and manufactures within their own dominions, so as to diminish or render useless their importations, have endeavoured to entice workmen from other countries, by high salaries, privileges, &c. Many persons pretending to be skille i in various great manufactures, imagining that America must be in want of them, and that the Congress would probably be disposed to imitate the princes abovementioned, have proposed to go over on condition of having their passage paid, lands given, salaries appointed, exclusive privileges for terms of years, &c. Such persons, on reading the articles of confederation, will find that the Congress have no power committed to them, or money put into their hands, for such purposes; and that, if any such encouragement is given, it must be by the government of some separate state. This, however, has rarely been done in America; and when it has been done, it has rarely succeeded, so as to establish a manufacture, which the country was not yet so ripe for as to encourage private persons to set it up; labour being generally too dear, difficult to be kept together, every one desiring to be a master, and the cheapness of land inclining many to leave trades for agriculture. Some indeed have met with success,

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it is in the way of
of the family. Th
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&c. and form great
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by encouragements, i
on importation of su
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ture require great nu
small wages; those p
but will not be found
all taken up and cultiv
ple who cannot get la
manufacture of silk, th
as that of cloth in En
produces in plenty the

projects. The people by this means are not imposed on either by the merchant or mechanic: if the merchant demands too much profit on imported shoes, they buy of the shoemaker; and if he asks too high a price, they take them of the merchant: thus the two professions are checks on each other. The shoemaker however has, on the whole, a considerable profit upon his labour in America, beyond what he had in Europe, as he can add to his price a sum nearly equal to all the expenses of freight and commission, risk or assurance, &c. necessarily charged by the merchant. And the case is the same with the workman in every other mechanic art. Hence it is, that the artisans generally live better and more easily in America than in Europe; and such as are good economists make a comfortable provision for age, and for their children. Such may, therefore move with advantage to America.

In the old long-settled countries of Europe, all arts, trades, professions, farms, &c. are so full, that it is difficult for a poor man who has children to place them where they may gain, or learn to gain, a decent livelihood. The artisans, who fear creating future rivals in business, refuse to take apprentices, but upon conditions of money, maintenance or the like, which the parents are unable to comply with. Hence the youth are dragged up in ignorance of every gainful art, and obliged to become soldiers, or servants, or thieves, for a subsistence. In America the rapid increase of inhabitants takes away that fear of rivalship, and artisans willingly receive apprentices from the hope of profit by their labour, during the remainder of the time stipulated, after they shall be instructed. Hence it is easy for poor families to get their children instructed; for the artisans are so desirous of apprentices, that many of them will even give money to the parents, to have boys from ten to fifteen years of age bound apprentices to them, till the age of twenty-one; and many poor parents have, by that means, on their arrival in the country, raised money enough to buy land sufficient to establish themselves, and to subsist the rest of the family by agriculture.

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instructed in the art or profe
some other, by which he ma
lihood, and be able in his tu
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the master in any point of
sire among the masters to h
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service; and those who h
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their poverty would not
their own country.

The almost general me
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ly from idleness, are in a
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either an atheist or an infidel. And the Divine Being seems to have manifested his approbation of the mutual forbearance and kindness with which the different sects treat each other, by the remarkable prosperity with which he has been pleased to favour the whole country.

THOUGHTS ON COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS.

Of Embargoes upon Corn, and of the Poor.

In inland high countries, remote from the sea, and whose rivers are small, running *from* the country, and not to it, as is the case with Switzerland; great distress may arise from a course of bad harvests, if public graneries are not provided, and kept well stored. Anciently, too, before navigation was so general, ships so plenty, and commercial transactions so well established; even maratime countries might be occasionally distressed by bad crops. But such is now the facility of communication between those countries, than an unrestrained commerce can scarce ever fail of procuring a sufficiency for any of them. If indeed any government is so imprudent as to lay its hands on imported corn, forbid its exportation, or compel its sale at limited prices, there the people may suffer some famine from merchants avoiding their ports. But wherever commerce is known to be always free, and the merchant absolute master of his commodity, as in Holland, there will always be a reasonable supply.

When an exportation of corn takes place, occasioned by a higher price in some foreign countries, it

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relieving the poor
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poor, too, those wh
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ence to them, whet
Those working poor
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every district, who fr
of children, will be so
corn, as need relief; an
by particular benefacti
farmer's profit.

Those who fear, that
the country of corn, as t
never did, nor never can
when they view the tide
that all the water will lea
corn like

ierefore a more steady encouragement to agriculture. 'he nation would all have bread at this middle rice; and that nation, which at any time inhumanly ›fuses to relieve the distresses of another nation, eserves no compassion when in distress itself.

Of the Effect of Dearness of Provisions upon Working, and upon Manufactures.

The common people do not work for pleasure ge-erally, but from necessity. Cheapness of provisions ake them more idle; less work is then done, it is ien more in demand proportionally, and of course ie price rises. Dearness of provisions obliges the anufacturer to work more days and more hours; ius more work is done than equals the usual demand: f course it becomes cheaper, and the manufactures i consequence.

Of an Open Trade.

Perhaps, in general, it would be better if govern-ent meddled no further with trade, than to protect , and let it take its course. Most of the statutes or ts, edicts, arrets, and placarts of parliaments, inces, and states, for regulating, directing, or re-raining of trade, have, we think, been either political unders, or jobs obtained by artful men for private lvantages under pretence of public good. When olbert assembled some of the wise old merchants of rance, and desired their advice and opinion how he ould best serve and promote commerce; their an-ver, after consultation, was in three words only.—*aissez nous faire;* "Let us alone."—It is said by very solid writer of the same nation, that he is well lvanced in the science politics, who knows the full orce of that maxim, *Pas trop gouverner*, "not to overn too much;" which, perhaps, would be of ore use when applied to trade, than in any other ublic concern. It were therefore to be wished, that ommerce were as free between all the nations of the orld as it is between the several counties of England.

dustry is exerted,
Were only necessaries
men would work no m
that purpose.

Of the Prohibition with
Gold

Could Spain and I
ecuting their foolish
as Locke calls it, a
gold and silver, those
been of little more
Their plenty would
see the folly of th
prohibitory and res
made with intentio
from our trade w
money, and laws
ing that money, w
executed, would
little value; I sa
Spanish edicts; f

other produce will not suit, in exchange for the produce of some other country that furnishes what we have more occasion for, or more desire. When we have, to an inconvenient degree, parted with our gold and silver, our industry is stimulated afresh to procure more; that by its means we may contrive to procure the same advantages.

Of Restraints upon Commerce in Time of War.

When princes make war by prohibiting commerce, each may hurt himself as much as his enemy.—Traders, who by their business are promoting the common good of mankind, as well as farmers and fishermen, who labour for the subsistence of all, should never be interrupted or molested in their business, but enjoy the protection of all in the time of war, as well as in the time of peace.

This policy, those we are pleased to call barbarians, have, in a great measure, adopted: for the trading subjects of any power, with whom the Emperor of Morrocco may be at war, are not liable to capture, when within sight of his land, going or coming; and have otherwise free liberty to trade and reside in his dominions.

As a maritime power, we presume it is not thought right that *Great Britain* should grant such freedom, except partially, as in the case of war with France, when tobacco is allowed to be sent thither under the sanction of passports.

Exchange in Trade may be gainful to each Party.

In transactions of trade it is not to be supposed that, like gaming, what one party *gains* the other must necessarily *lose*. The gain to each may be equal. If A has more corn than he can consume, but wants cattle; and B has more cattle, but wants corn, exchange is gain to each: hereby the common stock of comforts in life is increased.

every individual ...
seeming temporary evil
its own cure.

HUMOROUS ACCOUNT OF A CUSTOM AMONG THE AMERICANS, ENTITLED WHITE-WASHING.

Attributed to the Pen of Dr. Franklin

ALTHOUGH the following article has not yet appear
l in any collection of the works of this great philo
pher, we are inclined to receive the general opinion,
rom the plainness of the style, and the humour
hich characterizes it) to be the performance of Dr.
ranklin.—

My wish is to give you some account of the peo-
e of these new States, but I am far from being qua-
fied for the purpose, having as yet seen little more
an the cities of New York and Philadelphia. I
ave discovered but few national singularities among
em. Their customs and manners are nearly the
me with those of England, which they have long
en used to copy. For, previous to the Revolution,
e Americans were from their infancy taught to look
to the English as patterns of perfection in all things.
have observed, however, one custom, which, for
ght I know, is peculiar to this country; an ac-
unt of it will serve to fill up the remainder of this
eet, and may afford you some amusement.

When a young couple are about to enter into the
atrimonial state, a never-failing article in the mar-
age treaty is, that the lady shall have and enjoy the
se and unmolested exercise of the rights of *white-
shing*, with all its ceremonials, privileges and
ppurtenances. A young woman would forego the
ost advantageous connexion, and even disappoint
e warmest wish of her heart, rather than resign the
valuable right. You would wonder what this pri-
lege of *white-washing* is: I will endeavour to give
u some idea of the ceremony, as I have seen it
rformed.

There is no season of the year in which the lady
ay not claim her privilege, if she pleases; but the

and go on again ...
fect. But if, when the husband rises in
ing, he should observe in the yard a whe
with a quantity of lime in it, or should s
buckets with lime dissolved in water, the
no time to be lost; he immediately loc
apartment or closet where his papers or l
property is kept, and putting the key in l
betakes himself to flight: for a husband
beloved, becomes a perfect nuisance durin
son of female rage, his authority is super
commission is suspended, and the very scu
cleans the brasses in the kitchen, become
consideration and importance than him.
nothing for it but to abdicate, and run fr
which he can neither prevent nor mollify.
The husband gone, the ceremony begins.
are in a few minutes stripped of their
paintings, prints, and looking-glasses, lie in
heap about the floors; the curtains are tor
testers, the beds crammed into the windov
and tables, bedsteads and cradles, crowd
and the garden-fence bends beneath the
carpets, blankets, cloth cloaks, old coats, a
breeches. Here may be seen the lumber

ipes unrummaged. It would seem as if the day
general doom was come, and the utensils of the
se were dragged forth to judgment. In this tem-
: the words of Lear naturally present themselves.
might, with some alteration, be made strictly
licable :

——" Let the great gods,
'hat keep this dreadful pudder o'er our heads,
'ind out their en'mies now. Tremble, thou
wretch,
'hat hast within thee, undivulged crimes
'nwhip'd of justice !"—
——" Close pent-up guilt,
'aise your concealing continents, and ask
'hese dreadful summoners grace !"

'his ceremony completed, and the house tho-
ghly evacuated, the next operation is to smear the
ls and ceilings of every room and closet with
thes dipped in a solution of lime called *white-*
h ; to pour buckets of water over every floor, and
tch all the partitions and wainscots with rough
thes wet with soap-suds, and dipped in stone-
er's sand. The windows by no means escape
general deluge. A servant scrambles out upon
pent-house, at the risk of her neck, and with a
; in her hand, and a bucket within reach, she
hes away innumerable gallons of water against
glass panes ; to the great annoyance of the pas-

some idea of this cleaning ma
is, that the sole object is to
matters not how many useful,
ble articles are mutilated, or
operation; a mahogany chair
dergo the same discipline; t
clean at all events; but their p
thy of attention. For instance
is laid flat upon the floor; sn
upon it, and the superincumb
glasses of the lower tier; but thi
A valuable picture is placed
sharp corner of a table; othe
against that, until the pressur
the corner of the table throu
first. The frame and glass of
cleaned; the spirit and oil u
are suffered to leak through an
no matter, if the glass is clean,
it is sufficient; the rest is not wo
An able Arithmetician
lation, founded on long experie
ed, that the losses and destru
white-washings are equal to or

colds from the exhalations of wet floors or damp walls.

I know a gentleman, who was fond of accounting for every thing in a philosophical way He considers this, which I have called a custom, a real periodical disease, peculiar to the climate. His train of reasoning is ingenuious and whimsical; but I am not at leisure to give you a detail. The result was, that he found the distemper to be incurable; but after much study he conceived he had discovered a method to divert the evil he could not subdue. For this purpose he caused a small building, about twelve feet square, to be erected in his garden, and furnished with some ordinary chairs and tables; and a few prints of the cheapest sort were hung against the walls. His hope was, that when the white-washing frenzy seized the females of his family, they might repair to this apartment, and scrub, and smear, and scour, to their heart's content: and to spend the violence of the disease in this out-post, while he enjoyed himself in quiet at head-quarters. But the experiment did not answer his expectation; it was impossible it should, since a principal part of the gratification consists in the lady having an uncontrolled right to torment her husband at least once a year, and to turn him out of doors, and take the reigns of government into her own hands.

There is a much better contrivance than this of the philosopher's; which is, to cover the walls of the house with paper: this is generally done; and, though it cannot abolish, it at least shortens the period of female dominion. The paper is decorated with flowers of various fancies, and made so ornamental, that the women have admitted the fashion without perceiving the design.

There is also another alleviation of the husband's distress; he generally has the privilege of a small room or closet for his books and papers, the key of which he is allowed to keep. This is considered as a privileged place, and stands like the land of Goshen amid the plagues of Egypt. But then he must be extremely caution, and ever on his guard; for should

charge fou
books, to the amou
strongly impressed wi
ed the debt and take
action was of long st
find the receipt. Th
the time approached w
ed against him. He t
amine a large bundle
untied and displayed o
the midst of his search,
on business of importa
door of his room. Th
long looking out for suc
ately entered with the u
great alacrity fell to clea
things *to rights*. The firs
was the confused situation
these were without delay
many dirty knives and fork
piece of paper fell unnotice
pened to be the very rece
no very respectable appea
swept out with the comm
carried in a rubbish

regulation of the police; but, on further inquiry, find it is a religious rite, preparatory to the sabbath; and is, I believe, the only religious rite in which the numerous sectaries of this city perfectly agree. The ceremony begins about sun-set, and continues till about ten or eleven at night. It is very difficult for a stranger to walk the streets on those evenings; he runs a continual risk of having a bucket of dirty water thrown against his legs; but a Philadelphian born, is so much accustomed to the danger, that he avoids it with surprising dexterity. It is from this circumstance that a Philadelphian may be known any where by his gait. The streets of New York are paved with rough stones; these indeed are not washed, but the dirt is so thoroughly swept from before the doors, that the stones stand up sharp and prominent, to the great inconvenience of those who are not accustomed to so rough a path. But habit reconciles every thing. It is diverting enough to see a Philadelphian at New York; he walks the streets [illegible] as much painful caution, as if his toes were [illegible]red with corns, or his feet lamed with the gout; while a New Yorker, as little approving the plain masonry of Philadelphia, shuffles along the pavement like a parrot on a mahogany table.

It must be acknowledged, that the ablutions I have mentioned are attended with no small inconvenience; but the women would not be induced, from any consideration, to resign their privilege. Notwithstanding this, I can give you the strongest assurances, that the women of America make the most faithful wives and the most attentive mothers in the world; and I am sure you will join me in opinion, that if a married man is made miserable only *one* week in a whole year, he will have no great cause to complain of the matrimonial bond.

I am, &c.

SIR,

I HAVE lately seen a letter
white-washing, in which that
good house-wife is treated wit
I should probably have forgot
this time; but the season co
women think suitable for clean
from smoke and dirt of the wi
author dished up in every fa
performance quoted wherever
exercise her reasonable prero
duties of her station. Women g
time to better purposes than s
and comforts of a family rest
shoulders; hence it is that the
authors; and the men, knowi
attentions are to their happines
nity of discouraging literary ac
fair sex. You hear it echoed f

! say, women generally employ their time to much
tter purposes than scribbling; otherwise this face-
ous writer had not gone so long unanswered. We
ive ladies who sometimes lay down the needle, and
ke up the pen; I wonder none of them have at-
mpted some reply. For my part, I do not pretend
be an author. I never appeared in print in my
e, but I can no longer forbear saying something in
swer to such impertinence, circulate how it may.
ly, sir, consider our situation. Men are naturally
attentive to the decencies of life; but why should I
so complaisant? I say, they are naturally filthy
eatures. If it were not that their connexion with
e refined sex polished their manners, and had a
ppy influence on the general economy of life, these
rds of the creation would wallow in filth, and po-
lous cities would infect the atmosphere with their
xious vapours. It is the attention and assiduity
the women that prevent men from degenerating
o mere swine. How important then are the ser-
we render; and yet for these very services we
made the subject of ridicule and fun. Base in-
atitude! Nauseous creatures! Perhaps you may
ink I am in a passion. No, Sir, I do assure you I
ver was more composed in my life, and yet it is
ough to provoke a saint to see how unreasonably
e are treated by the men. Why now, there's my
sband—a good-enough sort of a man in the main—
t I will give you a sample of him. He comes into
e parlour the other the day, where, to be sure, I
as cutting up a piece of linen. "Lord!" says he,
what a flutter here is! I can't bear to see the par-
ar look like a tailor's shop: besides, I am going to
ake some important philosophical experiments,
d must have sufficient room." You must know
y husband is one of your would-be philosophers.
ell, I bundled up my linen as quick as I could, and
gan to darn a pair of ruffles, which took no room,
d could give no offence. I thought, however, I
ould watch my lord and master's important busi-
ss. In about half an hour the table was covered
th all manner of trumpery; bottles of water, phials

could sufficiently discover
any one operation. I wa
and with good reason too:
himself with mischief, like
and had called the serva
away, I took a view of the
ed. I shall not even atte
suffice it to say, that he had
stained my best mahogar
spilt a quantity of vitriol,
my carpet: my marble h
with melted rosin: beside
china cups, four wine gla
of my handsomest decar
said before, I perceived th
any one operation. By t
white-wash scribbler, that
our closets become furn
bowls, cracked tumblers
of tea-pots, and stopper
say, I took a view of t
philosophic husband ha
sat, like Patience on a
but it worked inwardly.

you do?" "O Lord! I am almost fatigued to death: I have been all the morning making philosophical experiments." I was now more hardly put to it to smother a laugh, than I had been just before to contain my rage; my *precious* went out soon after, and I, as you may suppose, mustered all my forces: brushes, buckets, soap, sand, limeskins and cocoanut shells, with all the powers of housewifery, were immediately employed. I was certainly the best philosopher of the two; for my experiments succeeded, and his did not. All was well again, except my poor carpet—my vitriolized carpet, which still continued a mournful momento of philosophic fury, or rather philosophic folly. The operation was scarce over, when in came my experimental philosopher, and told me, with all the indifference in the world, that he had invited six gentlemen to dine with him at three o'clock. It was then past one. I complained of the short notice; "Poh! poh!" [illegible]he, "you can get a leg of mutton, and a loin of veal, and a few potatoes, which will do well enough." Heavens! what a chaos must the head of a philosopher be! a leg of mutton, a loin of veal and potatoes! I was at a loss whether I should laugh or be angry; but there was no time for determining: I had but an hour and a half to do a world of business in. My carpet, which had suffered in the cause of experimental philosophy in the morning, was destined to be more shamefully dishonoured in the afternoon by a deluge of nasty tobacco juice.—Gentlemen smokers love segars better than carpets. Think, Sir, what a women must endure under such circumstances; and then, after all, to be reproached with her cleanliness, and to have her white-washings, her scourings, and scrubbings made the subject of ridicule, it is more than patience can put up with. What I have now exhibited is but a small specimen of the injuries we sustain from the boasted superiority of men. But we will not be laughed out of our cleanliness. A woman would rather be called any thing than a slut,

thing to be
called for again.

FINAL SPEECH OF DR. FRANKLIN IN THE LATE FEDERAL CONVENTION.*

MR. PRESIDENT,

I CONFESS that I do not entirely approve of this constitution at present; but, Sir, I am not sure I shall never approve it; for having lived long, I have experienced many instances of being obliged, by better information, or fuller consideration, to change opinions even on important subjects, which I once thought right, but found to be otherwise. It is, therefore, that the older I grow, the more apt I [illegible] to doubt my own judgment, and to pay more respect to the judgment of others. Most men, indeed, as well as most sects in religion, think themselves in possession of all truth, and that whenever others differ from them, it is so far error. Steel, a protestant, in a dedication tells the pope, that, "the only difference between our two churches, in their opinions of the certainty of their doctrines, is, the Romish church is infallible, and the church of England never in the wrong." But, though many private persons think almost as highly of their own infallibility as that of their sect, few express it so naturally as a certain French lady, who, in a little dispute with her sister, said, "I don't know it happens, sister, but I meet with nobody but myself that is always in the right." *Il n'y a que moi qui a tonjours raison.* In these sentiments, Sir, I agree to this constitution, with all its faults, if they are

* Our reasons for ascribing this speech to Dr. Franklin, are its internal evidence, and its having appeared with his name during his *life-time uncontradicted*, in an American periodical publication.

potic government,
doubt too, whethe
tain, may be able
when you assembl
advantage of their
semble with those n
sions, their errors
and their selfish vie
a perfect productio
astonishes me, Sir,
so near to perfection
astonish our enemie
dence, to hear that o
those of the builders c
are on the point of sep
for the purpose of cutt

Thus, I consent, Sir,
expect no better, and b
is not the best. The op
I sacrifice to the public
ed a syllable of them a
they were born, and he
one of us, in returning
report the objections he

shall act heartily and unanimously in recommending this constitution, wherever our influence may extend, and turn our future thoughts and endeavours to the means of having it well administered.

On the whole Sir, I cannot help expressing a wish, that every member of the Convention, who may still have objections, would with me, on this occasion, doubt a little of his own infallibility, and, to make manifest our unanimity put his name to this instrument.

[The motion was then made for adding the last formula, viz.

Done in Convention, by the unanimous consent, &c. which was agreed to, and added accordingly.

PREFERENCE OF BOWS AND ARROWS IN WAR TO FIRE-ARMS.

TO MAJOR-GENERAL LEE.

Philadelphia, Feb. 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR,

The bearer, Mons. Arundel, is directed by the Congress to repair to General Schuyler, in order to be employed by him in the artillery service. He proposes to wait on you in his way, and has requested me to introduce him by a line to you. He has been an officer in the French service, as you will see by his commissions; and, professing a good will to our cause, I hope he may be useful in instructing our gunners and matrosses: perhaps he may advise in opening the nailed cannon.

I received the inclosed the other day from an officer, Mr. Newland, who served in the two last wars, and was known by General Gates, who spoke well of

We have got a la
hundred and twenty
Powder mills are now
set to work and make
with you, that pikes
would add bows and
pons, and not wisely l

1. Because a man n
as with a common mus

2. He can discharge
charging and dischargin

3. His object is not
smoke of his own side.

4. A flight of arrows s
fies and disturbs the enem

5. An arrow sticking in
hors du combat till it is e

6. Bows and arrows
every where than musket

Polydore Virgil, speak
against the French in E
mentions the great confus
into *sagittarum nube*, fro
cludes, "Est res profecto c
potens

decisive: then your proposed solemn league and covenant will go better down, and perhaps most of our other strong measures be adopted.

I am always glad to hear from you, but I do not deserve your favours, being so bad a correspondent. My eyes will now hardly serve me to write by night, and these short days have been all taken up by such variety of business that I seldom can sit down ten minutes without interruption, God give you success.

I am, with the greatest esteem,

Yours affectionately,

B. FRANKLIN

ON THE THEORY OF THE EARTH.

TO ABBÉ SOULIAVE.

Passy, September 22, 1782.

SIR,

I RETURN the papers with some corrections. I did not find coal mines, under the calcareous rock in Derbyshire.—I only remarked, that at the lowest part of that rocky mountain, which was in sight, there were oyster shells mixed with the stone; and part of the high country of Derby being probably as much above the level of the sea, as the coal mines of Whitehaven were below, it seemed a proof that there had been a great bouleversement in the surface of that island, some part of it having been depressed under the sea, and other parts, which had been under it, being raised above it. Such changes in the superficial parts of the globe seemed to me unlikely to happen, if the earth were solid at the centre. I there-

contained in a strong glass ves
seen to take the lowest place, a
above and upon it; and, as we
gree of density to which air may
M. Amontons calculated, that,
as it approached the centre in th
above the surface, it would at th
be heavier than gold, possibly t
pying the internal parts of the
compressed. And as the force o
air when heated, is in proportion
central air might afford anothe
surface, as well as be of use in k
tral fires; though, as you observ
faction of water, coming into con
may be an agent sufficiently stro
when acting between the incumb
which it rests.

If one might indulge imagin
how such a globe was formed,
that all the elements in separate
ginally mixed in confusion, and
space, they would as soon (as so
that ordained gravity, or the mutu
tain parts and the mutual

: matter mixed with the lighter air, would descend, the two, meeting, would form the shell of the first ı, leaving the upper atmosphere nearly clear. original movement of the parts towards their non centre would form a whirl there; which d continue in the turning of the new-formed globe , its axis, and the greatest diameter of the shell d be in its equator. If by any accident after- 's the axis should be changed, the dense internal by altering its form, must burst the shell, and v all its substance into the confusion in which we it. I will not trouble you at present with my es concerning the manner of forming the rest of system. Superior beings smile on our theories, at our presumption in making them. I will just ion that your observation of the ferruginous na- of the lava, which is thrown out from the depths ır volcanoes, gave me great pleasure. It has been a supposition of mine, that the iron con- d in the substance of the globe has made it capa- of becoming, as it is, a great magnet; that the of magnetism exists perhaps in all space; so here is a magnetical North and South of the uni- , as well as of this globe; and that if it were ble for a man to fly from star to star, he might n his course by the compass; that it was by the r of this general magnetism this globe became a cular magnet. In soft or hot iron the fluid of etism is naturally diffused equally; when with- influence of a magnet, it is drawn to one end of on, made denser there and rarer at the other. e the iron continues soft and hot, it is only a orary magnet: if it cools or grows hard in that ion, it becomes a permanent one, the magnetic not easily resuming its equilibrium. Perhaps y be owing to the permanent magnetism of this , which it had not at first, that its axis is at pre- ept parallel to itself, and not liable to the changes merly suffered, which occasioned the rupture of ell, the submersions and emersions of its lands, he confusion of its seasons. The present polar equatorial diameters differing from each other ten leagues, it is easy to conceive, in case some

leagues! Such a
ed much of Eu
mountain of Pa
composed of lin
abandoned by th
mate, which seem
being now becom
safe from any futu
still subject to th
are occasioned by
fluid: and such a
violent explosion
junction of water a
only lifts the incum
sion, but, impressin
under it, creates a
leagues, lifting, and
the countries under
whether I have exp
to get out of your si
occasion any new in
hypothesis, they will
I have given a loose
much more your mos

P. S. I have heard that chemists can by their art decompose stone and wood, extracting a considerable quantity of water from the one, and air from the other. It seems natural to conclude from this, that water and air were ingredients in their original composition: for men cannot make new matter of any kind. In the same manner do we not suppose, that when we consume combustibles of all kinds, and produce heat or light, we do not create the heat or light, we only decompose a substance which received it originally as a part of its composition? Heat may thus be considered as originally in a fluid state; but, attracted by organized bodies in their growth, becomes a part of the solid. Besides this, I can conceive that, in the first assemblage of the particles of this earth is composed, each brought its portion of the loose heat that had been connected with it and the whole, when pressed together, produced the internal fire which still subsists.

LOOSE THOUGHTS ON THE UNIVERSAL FLUID, &c.

Passy, June 25, 1784.

Universal space, as far as we know of it, seems to be filled with a subtle fluid, whose motion, or vibration, is called light.

This fluid may possibly be the same with that which, being attracted by and entering into other more solid matter, dilates the substance, by separating the constituent particles, and so rendering some solids fluid, and maintaining the fluidity of

While organized boc
augmenting in growth,
tinual waste, is not this
solidating this fluid cal
part of their substance?
the parts of such subst
solid state, sets that su
again makes its appearan

For the power of a m
limited to the dividing it, c
of it, or changing its form
ing compositions of it; b
making or creating of ne
the old: thus, if fire be an
of matter, its quantity is fi
world. We cannot destroy
addition to it; we can on
which confines it, and so set
put wood in a situation to
from one solid to another, as
burning stone, a part of the
wood being left in the ston
when at liberty, be capable of
ing into all bodies, organized
in totally

s fluid to mount with the matters to which it is
ached, as smoke or vapour?
Does it not seem to have a great affinity with
ter, since it will quit a solid to unite with that
d, and go off with it in vapour, leaving the solid
d to the touch, and the degree measurable by the
rmometer?
The vapour rises attached to this fluid; but at
certain height they separate, and the vapour de-
nds in rain, retaining but little of it, in snow or
l less. What becomes of that fluid? Does it rise
ove our atmosphere, and mix equally with the
iversal mass of the same kind? Or does a spheri-
stratum of it, denser, or less mixed with air, at-
cted by this globe, and repelled or pushed up only
a certain height from its surface, by the greater
ight of air remain there surrounding the globe,
d proceeding with it round the sun?
In such case, as there may be a continuity or com-
unication of this fluid through the air quite down to
e earth, is it not by the vibrations given to it by the
n that light appears to us; and may it not be, that
ery one of the infinitely small vibrations, striking
mmon matter with a certain force, enter its substance,
e held there by attraction, and augmented by suc-
eding vibrations, till the matter has received as
ich as their force can drive into it?
Is it not thus that the surface of this globe is con-
ually heated by such repeated vibrations in the
y, and cooled by the escape of that heat when
ose vibrations are discontinued in the night, or in-
cepted and reflected by clouds?
Is it not thus that fire is amassed, and makes the
eatest part of the substance of combustible bodies?
Perhaps when this globe was first formed, and its
iginal particles took their place at certain distances
om the centre, in proportion to their greater or less
avity, the fluid fire, attracted towards that centre,
ight in great part be obliged, as lightest, to take
ace above the rest, and thus form the sphere of fire
ove supposed, which would afterwards be continu-
ly diminishing by the substance it afforded to organ-

it, and burst when their included air is gas-
fied by the heat on the burning surfaces?

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